

Joint Operations of the Polish Armed Forces and the Police

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Abstract. *Task performance in the area of counteraction and removal of contemporary threats results requires a state to use all of its possible sources and resources. Main entities that carry out those tasks are Armed Forces of the Republic of Poland and Polish Police. Important areas of Polish Armed Forces and Police activities include tasks in the field of crisis management, security and public order maintenance, as well as country's defence. An effective task performance in particular areas is highly reliant on the quality of joint operations of the entities. Different legislative acts only slightly define powers to organize joint operations by Armed Forces and Police, however, the rules of such operations are described in detail in the agreements concluded between them. The area of joint operations of Polish Armed Forces and Police which should be of much attention is a good organization of joint training courses and field exercises. Such undertakings would significantly improve the effectiveness of joint operations of the entities, consequently reducing the number of victims and material loss, improving the protection of natural environment and providing the state security at a high level.*

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Introduction

A state as a social organization has specific functions. One can name as many of them as many areas of state activity in social life there are¹. The minimum of this activity include typically distinguished internal and external functions and other functions such as: economic and organizational function, social function, and cultural and educational function². They determine the state activity, among other things, in the area of territorial integrity, sovereignty, the possibility to survive and develop, and its citizens' safety. They are mainly associated with the internal function of a state providing safety and security in it, with the involvement of administrative bodies, the Police, prison system, courts, prosecutor's office and in some circumstances the army³. In order to perform this function a state has to possess resources and the ability of protection against potential and real threats which nowadays are characterized by changeability, unpredictability, sectors overlap and vagueness, and are present in most areas of public life in which a state has

¹ Redelbach A, *Wstęp do prawoznawstwa*. Poznan, 1995, p. 29.

² Łopatka A, *Encyklopedia prawa*. Warsaw, 1995, p. 46.

³ Salomonowicz Z, *Wstęp do prawoznawstwa*. Szczytno, 2008, p. 37.

to be active. The threats in question can destabilize political or economic growth, cause loss of life, health, material wealth or conditions to live freely and develop, or even can cause loss of sovereignty. On account of it, a state has to undertake specific actions to counteract those threats⁴. These undertaken counteractions and protective actions should be diversified and ought to correspond to the nature of the threat, its scale or forms of escalation and types of the above-mentioned values protected by a state. In order to perform tasks of counteraction and removal of effects of contemporary threats posed to security, a state uses all its possible sources and resources. Executive entities that carry out the tasks of counteraction and removal of effects of contemporary threats posed to security include law enforcement agencies, inspectorates, non-governmental rescue organizations, emergency services such as gas, electricity, heating and water ones. These executive entities report to different government departments, state authorities and institutions, and in their everyday life they perform tasks in the scope appropriate and necessary for a particular department, system, institution or unit. They function and perform their tasks in the scope defined in regulations on their activity that are included in legal acts, orders and other relevant prescriptive documents. Each executive entity obviously carries out its tasks in accordance with its purpose, possessed equipment and human resources. However, task performance by one entity is usually linked to task performance by other entity which requires a good organization of their joint operations in order to achieve effectiveness, rationality in sources and resources use, therefore, limited loss in human beings, property and natural environment. Key executive entities of a state that perform tasks in providing the state with security and safety in their broadest sense are Polish Armed Forces and Police.

The main legal act that defines the scope of activity of the Polish Armed Forces is the Act of 21st November, 1967 on General Defense Obligation of the Republic of Poland⁵. According to it, the Armed Forces of the Republic of Poland, apart from performing tasks in protection of the state independence, territorial integrity, security and inviolability of its borders, can take part in responding to natural disasters and removing their effects, counterterrorist actions, property protection, searches and saving or protecting human life and health, clearing the area from explosive and hazardous materials of a military origin and their neutralization; and they can also take part in crisis management tasks⁶. They are executive entities that can support civilian authorities in counteracting and removing the results of non-military threats if the involvement of other forces and resources including Police is impossible or may be insufficient. Because of human and organizational potential, specialist equipment, military infrastructure, mobilization abilities, mobility and flexibility they possess, they are capable of counteracting and eliminating the results of contemporary threats and they can subsequently support the Police in their statutory task performance.

⁴ *More:* Falecki J, *Dylematy zarządzania kryzysowego w Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej*. Sosnowiec: Publishing House „Humanitas”, 2016, p. 90.

⁵ Official Gazette from 2016 item 1534, as amended.

⁶ Art. 3 of the Act on General Defense Obligation of the Republic of Poland.

The main legal act that defines the scope of police activity, however, is the Act of 6th April 1990 on Police⁷. According to it, the Police is a uniformed and armed force serving the community, protecting people's safety and maintaining public order and security. The assigned tasks⁸ and powers⁹ mean that they are a key intervention unit whose mission is to protect human life, health, and property against unlawful attacks violating those rights, as well as to protect public order and security including peace keeping in public places, public transport, on roads and waterways commonly used.

It should be emphasized that the scope of Polish Armed Forces' and Police's competence is similar in some areas. It includes tasks that completely overlap, tasks that complement one another and the ones where tasks performance by one of these entities depends on the tasks performance by the other. These tasks concern Armed Forces and Police activity in different states of a country namely a regular state, crisis situations and also states of emergency.

The Armed Forces of Poland and the Polish Police report to different ministries and perform their tasks according to the principles described in legally binding universal acts (bills, orders) as well as the police and army-related normative acts. They are comprised of different organizational units that meet their requirements, they possess their own equipment, training system, as well as competence. As a rule they conduct their activities autonomously but in certain situations, when their own sources and resources are not satisfactory, they support each other. They have their own senior management responsible for their readiness to act, continuous management, organization of cooperation and logistics. On account of the tasks they perform they should be linked through a system of interrelationship and dependence, therefore, in order to be more effective in security maintenance, their cooperation and joint operations are essential.

The two terms, which are often considered synonyms, need to be explained here. According to the contemporary dictionary of the Polish language¹⁰, cooperation is 'work or activity run mutually, in agreement with others'¹¹. Similarly, and according to the universal dictionary of the Polish language¹², cooperation is 'work done together with other persons, activity undertaken by many persons, institutions or countries'¹³. On the other hand, running joint operations is activity or working with another person, helping that person with some activity, as well as having an influence on something through mutual activities.¹⁴ In Bronisław

⁷ Official Gazette from 2016 r., item 1782

⁸ Police tasks are named in art. 1, item 2 of the Act on Police. They are also defined by other prescriptive acts e.g. the act of 21 May 1999 on weapon and ammunition (Official Gazette from 2012 r. item 576, as amended).

⁹ Police powers are described in chapter 3 of the Act on Police, titled 'The scope of Police powers'.

¹⁰ Dunaj B (Ed.), *Słownik współczesnego języka polskiego*. Warsaw: Wilga, 1996.

¹¹ *Ibid.*, p. 1251.

¹² Dubisz S (Ed.), *Uniwersalny słownik języka polskiego*, Vol. 4. Warsaw, 2003.

¹³ *Ibid.*, p. 526.

¹⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 525.

Misztal's opinion, cooperation is undertaking activities being organised by social and economic indicators based on the social pattern¹⁵. Tadeusz Kotarbiński defines joint operations as a situation of at least two entities when one of them disturbs or helps the other. Then, carrying out joint operations is of negative or positive nature. Konstanty Piłajko claims that positive cooperation means mutual activities of entities aiming at reaching a common target; and negative cooperation is activity of entities which aim at reaching different or opposing objectives. According to Tadeusz Pszczółowski, conducting joint operations is cooperation which consists in sharing work between two entities performing fragmentary tasks in a coordinated way. The two entities are connected with the mutually carried assignment. It may be of homogeneous nature, it may have one superior goal, or it may have different or separate aims. In Bronisław Misztal's view, running joint operations means a range of influences among persons, groups of persons, institutions or social organisations, which is linked to a given level of social participation, mutuality of tasks being performed or their organisation according to the specific cultural model directed at satisfying subjective or objective community's expectations or a positively assessed value.¹⁶

The essence of carrying out joint operations by the Polish Armed Forces and the Police is combining their actions, potential and resources staying independent of each other, with the aim of reaching the mutual goal which is providing the broadly understood state security. The positive value of such joint operations is an effect of synergy, which is possible to be reached only when entities performing the task act together, not separately. That kind of attitude results in effectiveness of the tasks being performed and well-balanced use of sources and resources, the shortage of which is frequently exposed in emergency situations. As a consequence, joint operations contribute to reducing the number of casualties, property damage or the natural environment damage and they effectively influence providing the state security. Key areas of the joint operations, which should be undertaken on every level of organisational structures of the Polish Armed Forces and the Police, are as follows:

- organising the joint operations' communications,
- monitoring the threats and the mutual exchange of information on threats, the undertaken activities and the used sources and resources,
- arranging methods of using sources and resources during actions,
- mutual assistance as to sources and resources in the area of performing tasks for the cooperating entities,
- arranging medical and logistic assistance in the area of activity,
- creating, developing and introducing rules and procedures of conducting joint operations,
- running common conferences, trainings and exercises, as well as making teaching facilities available as needed,
- exchanging experience having been obtained during performing the tasks.

¹⁵ Jurkiewicz Z, Przegląd wybranych form współdziałania jednostek samorządu terytorialnego, [in:] Laskowski P (Ed.), Samorząd terytorialny w Polsce z perspektywy 25-lecia jego funkcjonowania. *Prace Naukowe*, vol. 33, no. 3/2015, Walbrzych, 2015, p. 141.

¹⁶ *More: Jurkiewicz Z, op. cit.*, p. 141.

Basic rules of arranging joint operations of the Polish Armed Forces with the Police resulting from legal regulations

Organisation of joint operations of the Polish Armed Forces with the Police is based on legal regulations defining competences of the two entities in the area of security and country's defence, legal acts on states of emergency and the related orders.

According to the Article 18 of the Act on the Police, in case of the public security threat or civil order disturbance, and when using armed police forces is not sufficient, the Armed Forces of the Republic of Poland may be used in order to assist the Police. It is the legal decision of the president of Poland which is made following the Prime Minister's motion. Independently of the Armed Forces being used, the Act on the Police gives the possibility to use the Military Police forces to provide police officers with relevant assistance (Article 18a). This may be ordered by the Prime Minister in the situation of the state security and order threat and when police sources and resources are insufficient to perform their tasks in the area of security and public order protection. The Prime Minister does so following the Minister of Internal Affairs' motion and in agreement with the Minister of National Defence.

The Polish Armed Forces assigned to give help to the Police may be used to eliminate:

- threats to life, health or the citizens' freedom,
- direct and threats to large property,
- direct threats to facilities and instruments critical to the state security and defence, central headquarters of state agencies or judicial system, economic or cultural facilities, diplomatic or consular posts of foreign countries or international organisations, as well as facilities supervised by an armed formation established on the basis of separate legal regulations,
- terrorist attack threats which may result in posing a danger to life or health of participants of cultural, sports or religious events, assemblies or major events.

The method of carrying out actions by the Police and the Polish Armed Forces in order to provide safety and public order, as well as specific requirements of using the forces, are defined by the order of the Council of Ministers as of 21 July 2016 on using the Police forces and the Polish Armed Forces in case of a threat to the public safety or civil disorder¹⁷. The former regulation by the same organ and passed on 6 August 2013 on particular conditions and the method of using the Polish Police and Armed Forces in case of a threat to the public safety or civil disorder¹⁸, ceased to be in force on the basis of the Article 63 of the act of 10 June 2016 on counter-terrorist activities¹⁹. This happened when the new regulation came into force.²⁰

¹⁷ Official Journal item 1090.

¹⁸ Official Journal item 1037.

¹⁹ Official Journal item 904.

²⁰ It was preceded by the order of the Council of Ministers of 6 August 2013 on particular conditions and the method of using the Polish Police and Armed Forces in case of a threat to the public safety or civil disorder.

The body which coordinates and consistently arranges joint operations in order to provide security and maintain the public order is the regional police commandant. They do so in case of actions undertaken by the Police and the Polish Armed Forces in the area of one administrative region of the country. The Polish Police Chief is responsible for operations carried out in the area which is bigger than one administrative region of the country. The coordinating organ may entitle a commissioned police officer to perform their tasks. They need to, however, show the knowledge, skills, competence and experience of a commander. They are obliged to act in agreement with the regional governor, the minister of interior and the Operational Commander of the Armed Forces. The cooperation with the minister takes place in case of actions to be carried out in the area larger than one administrative region of the country. When the Military Police forces are used, they cooperate with the Police Chief of the Military Police.

The authority responsible for coordination and organisation of joint operations is in charge of:

- dividing the tasks according to executive capabilities of the Polish Police and the Armed Forces;
- arranging plans and schedules with the Police and the Polish Armed Forces that are necessary for task fulfillment;
- providing information essential for task performance, particularly relating to threats, course of events and results of actions, as well as those influencing methods and forms of effective counteracting dangers to the public safety and its efficient restoring;
- supporting the security of the Polish Armed Forces transfer in connection with assisting the Police;
- providing logistic back-up for police operations carried out with the assistance of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Poland and determining the scope of this support.

Exchange of information during activities of Police forces conducted with the support of divisions of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Poland is organized by commanders of these forces, while the coordinating organ specifies technical measures intended to exchange information and methods of confidentiality protection concerning information transfer. The coordinating organ may appoint a Police officer or a team of Police officers to conduct liaison function on the scene of implementation of tasks designated for the division of Armed Forces of the Republic of Poland, and informs about that fact the commander of the division of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Poland. Furthermore, they may specify, that exchange of information is conducted with the intermediation of a Police officer or a team of Police officers designated to conduct liaison function.

The previous regulation in force from 2013 clearly stated that, the organ appointing a Police officer (a team) to conduct liaison function determines a particular scope of activities within this function, about which they inform the commander of the division of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Poland.

In the Act of 24th August 2001 on Military Police and military law enforcement organs²¹ the tasks of the Military Police included, inter alia, cooperation

²¹ Consolidated text: Journal of Laws of 2016, item 1483, as amended.

with Polish and foreign organs and services responsible for security and public order. The possibility, or even duty, of cooperation between the Military Police and the Police results also from the abovementioned Article 18 of the Act on the Police, in accordance with which, in case of a threat to security and public order, if the Police forces are not enough to carry out their tasks in the scope of security protection and public order, the Prime Minister, upon the request of the minister responsible for internal affairs in agreement with Minister of Defense, might order the use of the Military Police to assist them. The areas of the assistance include above all:

- conducting covert policing, investigative activities, including prevention,
- search activities for persons, property, items and possessions, including rescue operations,
- counter-terrorist activities and protection of facilities particularly important for state's security²².

In accordance with the provisions of the Act of 21 June 2002 on state of emergency²³ the President of the Republic of Poland upon request of the Prime Minister might decide to use units and subunits of military forces of the Republic of Poland in order to restore normal functioning of the state, if previously applied forces and means have already been used. The Minister of Defense agrees with the minister appropriate for internal affairs the tasks of units and subunits of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Poland and transfers them to the commanders in the form of a decision, which, inter alia: determines organs of government and self-government administration which the commanders of the military forces units will be cooperating with while carrying out their tasks. Soldiers assigned to such units and subunits will remain under the command of their superiors and have authorities of Police officers described in the Articles 15 and 16 of the Act on the Police in the scope necessary to carry out their tasks.

The detailed regulations regarding the use of units and subunits of the Republic of Poland during the state of emergency, including the degree and kind of threats comprising the reason to introduce and continue the state of emergency, have been determined by the regulation of the Council of Ministers²⁴. Activities of units and subunits of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Poland might be conducted independently or together with other armed formations, inter alia, the Police. The activities of units and subunits of the military forces of the Republic of Poland within the scope of assigned tasks are commanded and coordinated by the Operational Commander of the Armed Forces, while Commander-in-Chief of the Military Police, the Commander of the Warsaw Garrison or the commander of special forces command the activities and coordinate them in case of separating units and subunits of the military forces of the Republic of Poland only from military units

²² Współdziałanie Żandarmerii Wojskowej i Policji. *Policja. Kwartalnik policyjny (Police Quarterly)* 2/2013, p. 3. — interview with gen. dr. Mirosław Rozmus, Komendant Główny Żandarmerii Wojskowej.

²³ Consolidated text: Journal of Laws of 2016, item 886.

²⁴ Regulation of the Council of Ministers of 20th December 2013 on specific rules of using units and subunits of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Poland during the state of emergency (Journal of Laws of 2013, item 1733).

subordinated to them. The commanders of the units and subunits of the military forces of the Republic of Poland cooperate in implementing their tasks, according to their jurisdiction, with:

- a minister responsible for internal affairs and the Commander-in-Chief of Polish Police — in case of using units and subunits of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Poland in the area bigger than one region;
- a provincial governor and locally competent regional Police commander — in case of using units and subunits of military forces of the Republic of Poland in the area of one region.

The analyzed legal regulations included the necessity of common activities and general directions, which allow to combine efforts and capabilities of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Poland and the Police for more effective achievement of the planned objectives. The notations regarding cooperation of these entities included in the acts and decrees, in rare cases indicate directly organization of cooperation, while in most cases they indirectly indicate the necessity of its organization.

Rules of cooperation of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Poland included in agreements regarding the area of security and public order

In order to organize cooperation the Armed Forces of the Republic of Poland, the Military Police and the Police have signed a series of cooperation agreements. The administrative agreements allow to organize cooperation, determine objectives of cooperation, arrange common tasks for implementation, organize common support of activities for actions carried out by a party of the agreement, or determine rules, procedures and objectives of cooperation.

In order to provide efficient cooperation and effective support in terms of implementation of the tasks described in the acts, the Commander-in-Chief of Police and the Deputy at the General Staff of the Polish Army on the authority of the Minister of National Defense, signed on 20th April 2005 the agreement on cooperation of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Poland in the area of counteracting crisis situations²⁵, which obliges the parties of the agreement to:

- immediate exchange of information about threats (especially of terrorist character), which shortens the time of achieving readiness for action of assigned forces and means,
- agree plans of using forces, means and procedures of actions on the decision and executive levels,
- conducting joint trainings and staff exercises,
- exchange experiences and possibility to use didactic base and providing educational services on the basis of reciprocity principle,
- providing mutual medical assistance in joint activities.

²⁵ Official Journal of the Ministry of National Defense No. 10, item 89.

The Police are obliged to provide assistance to the Armed Forces of the Republic of Poland in the scope of supporting the Military Police in securing transport and movement of troops, both own and allied, prevention activities in the area of facilities and in military areas, as well as conducting policing activities in facilities and military areas. In accordance with the agreement, however, the Armed Forces of the Republic of Poland are obliged to support the Police in the scope of air transport and land transport, the possibility of using military logistic infrastructure, making accessible military equipment, commanding, communicating and IT means, as well as means for special operations and support in searching activities for missing persons.

For example the agreement of the Commander-in-Chief of the Military Police and the Commander-in-Chief of the Police of 16th January 2002 on cooperation of the Police and the Military Police, which involves in the scope of prevention activities, inter alia: organizing joint patrols in areas endangered with violation of public order or joint road traffic checks. The agreement has been specified and adjusted to the modern conditions of the Commander-in-Chief of the Military Police and the Commander-in-Chief of the Police of 8th May 2013 on cooperation of the Military Police and the Police.

The agreement between the Commander of the Polish Military Police and the Polish Police Chief from 8 May 2013 on the cooperation between the Police and Military Police²⁶ regulates, within its scope of organization, conducting joint operations targeted at protecting the safety of the citizens and maintaining the security and public order, especially in the case of preventive measures, covert policing, investigative activities, the exchange of information, professional development, negotiations and telecommunications. Preventive measures include the deployment of joint patrols in areas with a high risk of public disorder occurrence and the organization of joint traffic patrols. The already signed document has successfully adapted the current agreement between the Commander of the Polish Military Police and the Polish Police Chief from 16 January 2002 on the cooperation between the Police and Military Police²⁷ to contemporary needs and it has also made some of its regulations more precise. The aim of rectifying old regulations and introducing new regulations of the agreement was to update the current rules of cooperation which will in turn allow both formations to fulfill their duties even better. After these changes both the Police and Military Police may effectively prevent and fight corruption, organized crime and carry out activities aimed at protecting the citizens, property and public order²⁸. The agreement from 8 May 2013 was incorporated into the current agreement on 30 June 2015 as a method of adapting the concluded agreement to the contemporary conditions and threats.

The cooperation between the Police and the Military Police conducted as part of the joint operations programme aimed at providing and maintaining public safety and public order includes the following:

²⁶ Not published.

²⁷ Babiński A, Żandarmeria Wojskowa — zarys służby zapewniającej bezpieczeństwo i porządek, [in:] Zubrzycki W, Rozmus M, Babiński A (Eds), *Żandarmeria Wojskowa w operacjach międzynarodowych sił wsparcia NATO*. Olsztyn, 2017, p. 21.

²⁸ Porozumienie o współdziałaniu Policji i Żandarmerii Wojskowej. *Electronic source*: <http://www.policja.pl>, accessed: March 2017.

- preventive measures (joint patrols and joint traffic patrols);
- securing crime scenes in order to prevent contamination of evidence and traces;
- taking advantage of the appointed experts and specialists as well as conducting investigations and rogatory commission hearings;
- search of premises, arresting persons, seizing vehicles and property²⁹.

The cooperation of the Polish Armed Forces and the Police as part of tasks related to terrorist threats and military state-security threats

The Interministerial Team for Terrorist Threats has delineated the rules of cooperation between various law enforcement and government agencies at a terrorist incident scene. It has been accomplished through an agreement on cooperation and management of tasks at the scene of a terror incident. On 22 January 2014 it was signed by the Head of the Internal Security Agency, the Police, the Polish Border Guard, the Military Police and the State Fire Service. What is essential for the document is that each agency and emergency service knows what to do whenever such incidents take place³⁰.

Another crucial field of cooperation for the Polish Armed Forces and the Police is counter-terrorism, where the Polish Armed Forces will play the leading role in the use of the RENEGADE³¹ air combat system to engage the terrorists on the ground, whereas during marine scenarios the Polish Armed Forces will play a supplementary role in combating and removing the effects of a terrorist attack also supporting Police forces. The Police will support the Armed Forces in the process of combating terrorist attacks especially when operating at an intervention airfield. Two fighter jets are called in from stand-by to escort an air-vessel classified as RENEGAE to the ground and the Police supports the Armed Forces in cooperation with the Military Police, the Border Guard and the State Fire Service in order to rescue the hostages who are held onboard of the plane or to apprehend the terrorists. It should be pointed out that in September 2004, April 2005 and January 2006 the Polish Air Command conducted tactical tutorials with the armed forces on the subject of reacting in crisis situations according to the RENEGADE procedure, the goal of which was to coordinate the elements of the air defense systems and the forces of the non-military subsystem including the Police when it comes to preventing terrorist threats from the air. During the tutorials notification course and procedures were set up and a specific set of tasks for the Police at the intervention airfield was established. In a scenario involving a ground terrorist attack

²⁹ Rozmus M, Współdziałanie Żandarmerii Wojskowej i Policji w obszarze działań prewencyjnych. *Kwartalnik policyjny (Police Quarterly)* 1/2014, p. 74.

³⁰ An agreement has been signed in case of a terrorist attack, Rzeczpospolita of 22 January 2014.

³¹ The term RENEGADE is used for a civilian aircraft, which might become a target of a terrorist attack. Depending on the criteria, the civilian aircrafts can be divided into three categories: Suspected RENEGADE, Probable RENEGADE and Confirmed RENEGADE.

the Armed Forces may cooperate with the Police in monitoring the threats, providing airlift for anti-terrorist units, eliminating terrorist groups and organizations and destroying terrorist compounds and facilities, rescuing hostages and recovering hazardous materials, protecting VIPs and critical facilities, accomplishing tasks related to psychological warfare, and in protecting and isolating specific sites and buildings, roads or sectioned-off streets.

An important field of cooperation of the Armed Forces and the Military Police in particular with the Police is ensuring the host nation support. HNS is civil and military assistance rendered by a nation to NATO forces within its territory during peacetime, crises or emergencies. HNS activities are carried out in order to ensure that the host country provides the allied forces with maximal operational freedom. These operations are conducted from the moment the allied troops enter the host country's territory (through land, air and sea borders) up to the point of reaching the operation zone. Among more relevant HNS tasks for the Police, conducted in close cooperation with the Polish Armed Forces and the Military Police are³²:

- cooperation with the National Defense Ministry, through the Plenipotentiary of the Minister of Internal Affairs and Administration for HNS;
- keeping the data stored in the ministerial HNS documentation up to date, the Police related section;
- allowing own units and allied units to regroup safely and ensuring that they remain safe in the country, which includes: supporting the Military Police in organizing swift regrouping of troops to the rendezvous area, providing conditions in order to allow military convoys to efficiently pass through cities and transport nodes and organizing reroutes for others motorists;
- participating in reconnaissance and threat control tasks which may disrupt public safety and public order along military routes and in places occupied by troops;
- providing resources to reinforce the preventive protection of military accommodation sites;
- participating in organizing a counter-terrorist cover of the territories to which troops have been deployed, as part of cooperation with various Polish Armed Forces bodies;
- selected representatives' participation in the meetings of the National Movement Coordination Center organized at the Movement and Transportation Division and, depending on the needs, participating in the meetings of other organizational structures conducting HNS statutory tasks.

Another area of cooperation between the Armed Forces of the Republic of Poland and Police results from the fact that Police are a part of the defence system in Poland and therefore a number of tasks arising from military threats to state security are included within the Police responsibility. Police tasks related to preparedness for defence require cooperation between the Police and the army and they mainly lead to:

³² Dyduch L, Policja w systemie bezpieczeństwa wewnętrznego państwa, [in:] Wiśniewski B, Płonka P (Eds), *Żandarmeria Wojskowa w systemie bezpieczeństwa wewnętrznego państwa*. Minsk Mazowiecki, 2010, p.114.

- protection of courier action and preventive protection of mobilization areas as well as areas of regrouping the army;
- preparing special protection for facilities, which are of utmost importance to state security and defence;
- providing communication and circulation of special mail in the system of running the country;
- preparing the protection of police personnel against firearms and chemical or biological weapons;
- supporting government bodies and army commanders in conducting the army enrolment procedures after ordering a mobilization;
- supporting the Armed Forces in counter-subversion;
- performing tasks related to relocating country's own army and fulfilling obligations imposed on the Host Country (HNS — Host Nation Support)³³.

Conclusions

Counteracting contemporary threats to security and removing their effects requires the engagement of many different executive bodies among which one can find the Armed Forces of the Republic of Poland and the Police, both of which perform tasks that demand mutual cooperation. However, proper cooperation requires relevant legal regulations. The analysis of current legally binding regulations leads to the conclusion that there is some legal basis to organize joint operations between the Armed Forces of the Republic of Poland and the Police, however the matter of authorization to organize the joint operations was of marginal significance in various legal acts. The analysed acts concerning the issue of organizing joint operations between the Armed Forces of the Republic of Poland and the Police do not solve the following problems: authorities responsible for initiating joint operations were not determined, organizers of joint operations were not determined either, the tasks and responsibilities were not stated together with the scope of cooperation, manner of organizing the joint operations as well as forms of cooperation or procedures of organizing the joint operations. All of the above issues were not addressed. However, the analysed regulations discuss the matter of authorization, which enables and sometimes obliges both parties to conduct a joint operation and therefore they may be willing to sign an agreement.

Signing bilateral agreement appears to be a justified action which allows to assume that the matter of joint operations is properly discussed. The subject matter in the signed bilateral agreements are bilateral obligations such as: the purpose of the joint operation, rules of information exchange, the scope of joint operation, bilateral obligations, levels of cooperation in hierarchical agencies and representatives of both parties to establish contact, conditions and mode of operation as well as the time of joint operation. The scope of a joint operation contains the following information:

³³ *Compare*: Boczkowski W, Realizacja zadań HNS przez jednostki Policji na terenie województwa, [in:] Rola i miejsce administracji publicznej w realizacji zadań wynikających z obowiązków Państwa-Gospodarza, conference proceedings. TWO, Warsaw, 2006, pp. 111–112.

- initiating and organizing joint actions in order to maintain security,
- monitoring potential threats, probability of their occurrence or their development, including threats of terrorist nature,
- common alerting, warning and providing the flow of information about the course of action in the crisis situation,
- protecting the critical infrastructure,
- common use of means of communication,
- providing assistance during the course of action in crisis management situations adequately to the needs and resources,
- logistic support.

The joint operations in signed agreements are conducted in different forms and their main concerns are: the exchange of information, the exchange of sources and resources during the joint actions and in particular the exchange of experts, equipment and devices together with the operators, conducting common training courses and field exercises, making the school facilities available and the exchange of professional experience concerning the task performance and duties as well as the exchange of the teaching materials.

Joint operations between the Armed Forces of the Republic of Poland and the Police are conducted in many different areas which include: actions taken in crisis situations, providing security and maintaining public order or actions for the sake of national defence. Joint operations taken in crisis situations are conducted in all stages with their main aim to reduce the potential crisis situation and in case of its occurrence the aim is to respond quickly and to minimize the damage and eliminate the effects. The Armed Forces of the Republic of Poland are the executive authority, which might be used in crisis situations when other sources and resources cannot be used or when other sources are not sufficient and then the Armed Forces conduct a wide range of crisis management tasks. However, in crisis situations the Police carry out tasks which generally might be qualified as supportive rescue actions and tasks which increase the effectiveness of these actions. In order to provide security and maintain public order the armed detachments of the riot police can be supported by the detachments of the Polish Armed Forces. However, the Military Police conduct covert policing, investigations, active search of persons who try to escape justice or who are missing, they also take preventive measures during public gatherings, mass events or large-scale field exercises. It is very important to determine the scope of cooperation in the preparedness for national defence actions with particular emphasis on: establishing rules and preparing the involvement of the Police in preventive protection of mobilization areas and military regrouping, designing plans to conduct and secure courier actions and storing call-up papers, performing the tasks according to the Host Nation Support procedures, providing communication and circulation of special mails within the system of the country's management or supporting the Armed Forces in counter-subversion.

However, there is a need to increase the effectiveness of organizing joint operations, which can be reached through e.g. common training courses and field exercises, which should be prepared and based on assumptions agreed upon in the preparation process. The aim of the field exercises and the training courses should be the preparation of structural elements of both parties, their sources

and resources to reach and maintain required abilities necessary to cooperate effectively. Joint training courses of the two parties and their common actions to coordinate selected elements in order to get used to working together should be a continuous process. Special attention should be paid to joint training courses and field exercises of the army and the police which are related to combatting terrorism. The training should be preceded by implementing common procedures concerning the exchange of information, cooperation, management and mutual relations between the participants during the counter-terrorist operations. Organizing joint field exercises will allow to get used to working together, coordinating all necessary elements involved in counter-terrorist operations, therefore it will lead to improve the effectiveness of action in crisis situations.

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Streszczenie. Realizacja zadań w zakresie przeciwdziałania i usuwania skutków współczesnych zagrożeń dla bezpieczeństwa wymaga od państwa użycia wszystkich możliwych, będących w jego dyspozycji sił i środków. Głównymi podmiotami realizującymi te zadania są Siły Zbrojne RP i Policja. Do ważniejszych obszarów działalności Sił Zbrojnych RP i Policji należy zliczyć działania podejmowane w ramach zarządzania kryzysowego, zapewnienia bezpieczeństwa i porządku publicznego, jak też na rzecz obronności państwa. Efektywna realizacja zadań w danych obszarach jest w dużym stopniu uzależniona od jakości współdziałania poszczególnych podmiotów. W różnych aktach prawnych jedynie marginalnie ujęto delegacje dotyczące organizacji współdziałania Sił Zbrojnych i Policji, natomiast szczegółowe zasady zamieszczono w podpisanych porozumieniach. Obszarem, na który należy zwrócić szczególną uwagę w sferze współdziałania Sił Zbrojnych RP i Policji jest właściwa organizacja wspólnych szkoleń i ćwiczeń. Tego rodzaju przedsięwzięcia znacząco poprawiłyby efektywność współdziałania podmiotów, wpływając w konsekwencji na ograniczenie ofiar i strat materialnych, poprawę ochrony środowiska naturalnego oraz zapewnienie bezpieczeństwa państwa na wysokim poziomie. W niniejszym artykule zostały przedstawione główne obszary tego współdziałania oraz wnioski jakie one nasuwają.

Резюме. Реализация задач в сфере противодействия и устранения последствий современных угроз для безопасности требует от государства использования всех, находящихся в его распоряжении сил и средств. Основными субъектами, выполняющими эти задачи являются Вооруженные силы Республики Польша и полиция. Важнейшие сферы деятельности Вооруженных сил РП и полиции включают мероприятия по управлению в чрезвычайной ситуации, обеспечение безопасности и общественного порядка, а также мероприятия по защите государства. Эффективная реализация задач в этих сферах в большой степени зависит от качественного уровня сотрудничества между отдельными субъектами. В разных правовых актах передача полномочий по организации сотрудничества Вооруженных сил и полиции представлена лишь маргинально, зато более подробные меры помещены в разного вида подписанных соглашениях. Вопросом, на который необходимо обратить особое внимание является соответствующая организация совместных практических занятий и учений. Этого вида мероприятия значительно повысят эффективность сотрудничества субъектов и в результате этого повлияют на ограничение количества жертв и материального ущерба, повышение уровня защиты естественной среды, а также обеспечение безопасности государства на высоком уровне.

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