

ЕКОЛОГІЧНА БЕЗПЕКА

ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY

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SECURITY IN 21st CENTURY

V. Porada, Я. Холомек, Е. Бруна. Безпека в 21 столітті. Розглядаються питання, пов'язані з безпекою в 21 столітті, виділяються два основних напрямки: приватизація безпеки і постійне збільшення безпеки, що призводять до обмеження прав людини. Приведено аналіз впливу цих тенденцій на фізичних осіб, надання охоронних послуг.

Ключові слова: безпека, приватизація безпеки, обмеження прав людини, приватні служби безпеки.

V. Porada, Я. Холомек, Э. Бруна. Безопасность в 21 веке. Рассматриваются вопросы, связанные с безопасностью в 21 веке, выделяются два основных направления: приватизация безопасности и постоянное увеличение безопасности, которые приводят к ограничению прав человека. Приведен анализ влияния этих тенденций на физических и юридических лиц, оказание охранных услуг.

Ключевые слова: безопасность, приватизация безопасности, ограничения прав человека, частные службы безопасности.

V. Porada, Ya. Holomek, E. Bruna. Security in the 21st century. The issues pertaining to security in the 21st century are considered. Two essential trends: privatization of security, and a constant increase in security to the detriment of human rights, are highlighted. The impact these trends will have on individuals and entities providing security services is analyzed.

Keywords: security, privatization of security, restriction of human rights, private security services.

This presentation is focused on two principal trends which, in our view, are bound to have a major impact on security in the first half of 21st century. It is not our ambition to provide a comprehensive analysis of the origin, the impact and the consequences of these trends. We only wish to draw public attention to their existence and forms in the present-day world, and sum up the consequences these trends may have for public administration and for entities conducting business in the provision of security services.

Two Principal Trends in Safeguarding Security

The methods and forms of safeguarding security have been changing throughout the history of human civilization:

— In the antiquity and the Middle Ages, the security of realms and their rulers was safeguarded by the rulers' retinue. Later on, the first professional formations (armies) developed. Security was granted to commoners only inasmuch they were part of the ruler's sphere of interest. This is why people sought protection with their ruler, although it meant to give up substantial parts of their human rights, i.e. be subdued to slavery or serfdom.

In modern times, especially in 19th century, security institutions specializing in internal security (police, prison guards etc.) were established by the state or its administrative bodies. These security bodies were entitled to restrict human rights only in conformity with law. See also [1, 2].

— In 20th century, the involvement of the state and its administrative components was increasingly complemented by that of private security services: partial privatization of the army, the police, prison guards etc. could be observed. The development of human rights and their protection was accompanied by restrictions and stark regulations of encroachments on the right to privacy and other human rights by security authorities.

In early 21st century, however, two significant trends emerged:

— an ongoing privatization of security, and

— an increase in security to the detriment of human rights and the right to privacy.

These trends can be tackled by:

— either the neo-liberal concept of reducing the role of the state by privatizing everything the state need not provide for (state minimisation);

— or the conservative concept of the state's predominance over human rights.

These two trends, i.e. the society's privatisation on the one hand, and its increase (or maintenance) to the detriment of human rights on the other will, in our view, characterize the safeguarding of the Euro-Atlantic civilization's security in the first half of 21st century and beyond.

No reasonable human beings fight against natural and social forces and processes which are beyond their control and influence, but they seek to learn and know them so as to be prepared for their occurrence and consequences, to avoid them, or to capitalize on them. We do not intend to analyze and/or assess these trends and their pros and cons. We will not seek answers to whether law and its enforcement are a natural privilege of the state, whether the state is capable of safeguarding its citizens' security by outsourcing all security services, or which powers the state should retain and how it should provide an effective control of security service outsourcing. Important as these issues undoubtedly are, we will put them aside for now.

In the next part we will briefly explain which phenomena, observable in both their early and advanced forms worldwide, have helped us to postulate our views mentioned above; this will be followed by conclusions based on the analysis of these trends.

Manifestations of these Trends in Present-Day World

Army

First signals of the involvement of paramilitary private units in a war could be observed in "the Gulf" in 1991, although these units were outnumbered in the ratio of one to fifty by American troops. During the invasion of Iraq, the ratio was 1:10. This proportion of private units in coalitional occupational administrations has also been increasing in Afghanistan and Kosovo ever since. In addition to providing logistics and training, these units are used to guard persons and premises, to escort civilian convoys and to act as interrogators or interpreters. According to these units' evaluation, "their direct participation in combat is only marginal, mostly reduced to isolated encounters with individuals or groups of attackers." Private security services have also taken over the protection of all power plants, communication centres, oil pipelines and oil-producing facilities on Iraqi territory against terrorists and saboteurs, as well as direct protection of all civilian staff arriving in the country. They even protect and guard Paul Bremer, the Administrator of the Coalition Provisional Authority in Iraq. [3,4].

Police

There is a broad range of private security services focused on the protection of persons and property.

In several European countries, security services employ more than one hundred thousand people (Great Britain, Germany). In the Czech Republic, according to security services estimates, private security services employ over fifty thousand people and their turnover is estimated at 19.5 billion Czech crowns (according to R. Zapletal, the Secretary of the Czech Union of Private Security Services, his estimate being based on 2010 data). This is, in fact, the biggest security corps in the Czech Republic, larger than the Czech Army or the Czech Police. This process is expected to continue.

Prison service

The process of privatization has also affected the sphere of prison service. According to original plans, the first private prison in the Czech Republic should have been completed by 2012. But as far as we know, its construction has not even begun yet [5]. There are alleged plans to use the former historical premises of the Josefov Fort which the local self-administrative authorities wish to rebuild into a private prison [6]. However, the Czech prisons are not private facilities to the same extent as abroad, being only financed by the private sector, and managed (and refunded) by the state.

Human Rights Restrictions

In the aftermath of 9/11, the US Administration resorted to unprecedented human rights restrictions as part of the so-called “war against terrorism”. Similar restrictions were adopted in many other states, not to mention a host of administrative and organizational restraints the citizens of advanced countries had to put up with in the following ten years (the most widespread being restrictions in air traffic).

In all debates and arguments, there has been a recurring theme of the dilemma between security and human rights, which some journalists and politicians have denounced as populist.

Regardless of these statements, expert discussions often point to the difficulties anyone faces when trying to safeguard security, whilst citizens are granted ever more rights and owe ever fewer duties. Such cases call for the use of technical means whose scope and variety have been growing exponentially.

Surveillance and Eavesdropping/Bugging

Each of us can be monitored, surveyed and eavesdropped in a virtually limitless number of ways and means. Many of the monitoring and eavesdropping devices used worldwide are also available in the Czech Republic and are purchased by employers to control their employees’ conduct, loyalty and honesty (e.g. using a hidden CC-camera or a monitoring software device), by businessmen to fight with competitors, by private detective agencies, by divorcees (determined to ruin each other), by parents of pubescent children and many others.

The following devices are common commodities:

- eavesdropping (bugging, wiretapping, mobile phone tapping etc.),
- espionage cameras (mini-cameras, hidden cameras, security cameras, wireless cameras, car-mounted cameras, night-vision motion-activated cameras etc.),
- jamming (GSM, GPS, 3G etc.),
- surveillance devices (children locators, car locators, GPS trackers etc.),
- computer monitoring (e.g. keyloggers and various software devices).

As GPS and GSM jammers, white-noise generators (i.e. devices generating noise identical with human voice), CC-cameras and bugging device detectors are becoming ever more popular consumer purchase articles, it is evident that people are increasingly aware of surveillance, monitoring and eavesdropping.

Increasingly popular is also mobile phone tapping (newspapers often report on the Agáta system available to the Czech police. Interestingly enough, a commercially available system bears a similar name: AGATHA).

Mobile phone tapping allows the reading of incoming and outgoing text messages, monitor GPS location, eavesdropping on phone conversations or eavesdropping on the phone’s surrounding space, transforming the chosen mobile phone into a classical “bug” with its user totally unaware of it. The sellers claim that mobile phone tapping is absolutely undetectable and reliable. In some cases, this tapping can even be transferred from one mobile phone to another.

Mobile phone tapping is based on a special software to be installed into the phone. According to its promoters, the tapping device can be installed within a few minutes. The tapping itself then runs as a hidden application which makes it absolutely undetectable. The only way to open this software in the mobile phone is to enter a special code. After entering this code a secret menu opens which allows further settings. Once installed, the tapping device is completely remote-controlled by text message commands [7].

Sixty per cent of US companies use software to monitor e-mail communications, 27 per cent of personnel concedes monitoring internal e-mail communication among employees. These data are about ten years old [8].

Let me add a couple of examples from everyday life:

— Any time you call any free-of-charge info-line of service-providing companies (mobile operators, banks, insurance companies etc.), you are usually warned that your call is being recorded.

— Research has also been increasingly focused on security as one of the priorities supported by the EU through its framework programmes. The INDECT Project (Intelligence Information System Supporting Observation, Search and Detection for Security of Citizens in Urban Environment), for example, is being processed as part of EU's Seventh Development Programme in the category of security (the project is co-processed by the College of Mining attached to the Technical University of Ostrava). Just for interest's sake: the project is scheduled to last 60 months, with EU subsidy amounting to 10.9 million Euro [9].

The Duties Ensuing From This:

a) for Public Administration Institutions:

— to define security standards safeguarded (guaranteed) by the state (public administration);

— to set priorities (of security activities, security areas, methods, deadlines) in the privatization of security and to work out relevant legislation;

— to define the scope of intrusion into human rights and freedoms to safeguard "standard" security.

Like in health service, a security standard will be defined in security services. This security standard will be provided, directly or indirectly, by the state, and any service exceeding this standard will be charged extra fees.

This standard will probably concern areas or time frames in which protection of health and life will be provided, along with the scope of mandatory property protection safeguarded by the state. This may mean that if I dwell at places clearly marked as risky (or unguarded) at night, I will be granted only a limited level of standard security service, and in emergency, I will have to pay for any rescue operation by security staff. If I fail to secure my property (e.g. my motor vehicle) in a standard way, its theft will only be registered, should it be found, without any additional security services. If I have any above-standard amount of cash or valuables on me in a public place, I will not be entitled to any security services other than the filing of this event.

What also ensues from these facts is the possibility to stay and live in special security zones where enhanced security will be a paid service. Nowadays, we witness attempts, both legal and illegal, at establishing such zones, from secure houses via secure blocks to secure neighbourhoods.

Animals and motor vehicles are already equipped with identification chips which make it possible to identify, monitor and find them. This is an exclusively security-based measure to enhance the security of animals and the property of their owners.

If this trend will be a long-term one, the issue at hand is not whether, but WHEN people will have the chips. From a purely rational point of view, a substantial reduction of crime would prove relatively easy in such situation. Checking house arrests, police-ordered sojourns, movement restrictions, approach bans etc. would become a trivial task.

The illegal character of acts of intrusion into human rights and freedoms on the part of state authorities may be avoided using, for example, outsourcing: any act by a state authority aimed at gaining intelligence information which is illegal or requires authorization can be commissioned to a private company without specifying the methods or forms of obtaining such information. Unless it is proved that it has been obtained illegally, everything will be alright. Or not?

b) For the private sector:

— to be ready for the takeover of security activity and in relevant security areas (know-how, human resources etc).

— to provide new, highly demanded security services not safeguarded by state bodies; alternately, such demand can be artificially induced.

In the private sector, information is worth its weight in gold. Various personal databases are freely circulated, purchased and sold, both legally and illegally. Information on consumer habits, a company's assets, the state of health and many other aspects can play a decisive role in a company's success or failure. This area is bound to experience a boom in the future as a challenge both to the providers of these data, and to legal experts when postulating relevant legislation.

A huge market will emerge for secondary schools and colleges to instruct and/or train security technicians, managers and executive staff. Many former soldiers, policemen and other state security service ex-personnel will be employed in the private sector. This in itself may become a security risk, especially in companies or firms conducting business on the verge of legality or beyond it.

The shortage of skilled labour is being felt by security services themselves (Radek Zapletal, the Private Security Services Association).

There is a considerable shortage of private security service experts in economy, sociology, legislation, psychology etc., a relative abundance of them in the area of technology (ditto) [10, 11].

Conclusion. The privatization of security and an increasing level of intrusion into our rights and our privacy are becoming an everyday reality in our lives. Regardless of how we view or assess them, we will be able to face them better if we are ready for them.

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