

Streszczenie w języku angielskim

Criminal Liability for Obstructing or Preventing Inspections Conducted by Public Administrative Authorities

The dissertation examines the issue of *sensu largo* criminal liability for obstructing or preventing inspections carried out by public administration bodies and constitutes an attempt at a comprehensive treatment of this subject, which to date has been analysed only in a fragmentary manner. Interference with inspection activities - forming a fundamental instrument for the execution of public tasks - undermines the proper functioning of the state, the protection of the legal order, and collective security. Despite the significant role of inspections, the regulations penalising conduct that disrupts their proper course are dispersed across the Criminal Code, the Fiscal Penal Code, the Code of Petty Offences, and numerous sector-specific statutes. This fragmentation generates interpretative difficulties, hinders the practical application of the law, and results in inconsistent sanctions imposed for conduct of essentially the same nature.

The dissertation analyses the concept of inspection as understood in the doctrine of administrative law and presents the principles governing the conduct of inspections, in particular those arising from the Entrepreneurs' Law and statutes defining the competences of specific inspection authorities. Defining inspection standards is of crucial importance, as the statutory powers of the inspecting authority determine the scope of the obligations imposed on the inspected entity. The study reconstructs a comprehensive model of liability for hindering or obstructing inspections, encompassing criminal offences, fiscal offences, petty offences, fiscal petty offences, and administrative delicts, while taking into account their common characteristics, structural differences, and interpretative challenges. The findings demonstrate that, despite the functional uniformity of such conduct, the regulatory framework remains inconsistent and highly fragmented, leading to disproportionate variations in sanctions and blurring the boundaries between criminal and administrative liability.

An important component of the dissertation is the analysis of statistical data concerning convictions for the relevant offences between 2008 and 2020. These data reveal a limited number of final convictions, the predominance of fines as the principal form of criminal response, and the marginal application of custodial sanctions. Such findings prompt reflection

on the actual effectiveness of penal measures and their proportionality to the protected legal interests.

In conclusion, the dissertation formulates *de lege lata* observations and *de lege ferenda* proposals aimed at streamlining and harmonising the legal framework governing liability for hindering or obstructing inspections conducted by public administration bodies. A key recommendation is the introduction of a single general offence into the Criminal Code encompassing all forms of obstruction of inspection activities, while simultaneously maintaining administrative measures for less serious infringements. The overall argument demonstrates that the current normative landscape requires systemic reform to ensure greater coherence, effectiveness, and proportionality of legal instruments safeguarding the proper conduct of inspections.