



Marcin Konieczny
PhD
Police Academy in Szczytno
e-mail: markon7788@gmail.com
ORCID: 0000-0002-1798-1509



Cooperation and interoperability between public security services and medical service in the aspect of CBRN threats in the territory of the Republic of Poland

Abstract

The article deals with the issue of cooperation and interoperability between the services responsible for public security and medical entities, including emergency medical units. The topic seems interesting due to the growing problem of threats resulting from a possible use of CBRN agents. As a general rule, toxic chemicals, pathogens of all kinds, and radioactive and nuclear substances can get out of control at random, but they can also be used deliberately – in terrorist attacks. Regardless of the cause, they pose a serious threat to life and health, as well as to the environment. The author puts forward the thesis that in the context of this type of threat, cooperation between the entities designated to save lives and health is insufficient and it absolutely requires the implementation of methods ensuring better coordination of activities. Based on the available relevant literature, the article describes the concepts of public security, health safety and threats. The aim of the study is to analyze common training, methods and systems of cooperation between services responsible for public security, in particular the principles of notifying and informing about threats related to the possible use of CBRN, particularly in terms of preventing such threats, responding to them, counteracting and taking relevant protective measures. The article addresses the issue of the duties, scope of responsibility and competences of individual formations in the light of legal regulations in force. It also addresses the unresolved issue of insufficient coordination and the deficit in the

area of rapid information exchange. The study indicates solutions and recommendations that could fill this gap for the benefit of public security and state authorities. The research method adopted for the purposes of this study is the analysis of the relevant literature.

Keywords: public security, public security services, medical entities, CBRN threats

Introduction

In the 21st century, the problem of threats posed by the use of CBRN agents has become very topical and presents a major challenge to the government, public administration, medical services and also ordinary citizens. In the American terminology, this abbreviation describes weapons of mass destruction: chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear. According to the British nomenclature, this type of weapon is known as NBC (Nuclear, Biological, Chemical). There is also another abbreviation used: ABC (Atomic, Biological, Chemical weapons). The American nomenclature is adopted in this study. Poisonous chemicals, pathogens, radioactive and nuclear substances, whether released accidentally or intentionally, pose a serious threat to life and health, as well as to the environment.

According to the predictions based on the events that have taken place over the last 20 years, hazardous materials will be one of the main threats in the 21st century. The dramatic events that have recently occurred in various parts of the world have proved this rising concern about CBRN-related threats. It was, for example, the nuclear reactor accident in Fukushima (2011) or the Ebola epidemic in West Africa (2014). Further examples of CBRN attacks include the deliberate use of sarin and chlorine gas in Iraq and Syria in 2013, and the attack using the VX paralytic seizure agent at the airport in Malaysia in 2017. All of these events make it clear that the danger that can occur as a result of chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear hazards is highly probable.

The CBRN threat is most often linked to terrorist activities. According to the research conducted by Pikulski, 70% of victims of terrorist attacks are by chance civilians. Such attacks most often take the form of bomb explosions (38%) and attacks with firearms (32%). This is what the statistics say. In addition, terrorist attacks lead to the loss of property and psychosocial problems that strongly affect the everyday life of citizens (lack of electricity, water, public transport and medical care).¹ On top of that, terrorist groups prefer activities in which the use of CBRN weapons will cause as many civilian casualties as possible. When analyzing this

¹ S. Pikulski, *Prawne środki zwalczania terroryzmu*, Olsztyn 2000, p. 23.

issue from the psychological point of view, we can distinguish several main motives that drive criminals and attackers who use CBRN agents.

The first and most important of these is the desire to kill as many people as possible. The use of CBRN weapons could give a terrorist group the potential ability to annihilate thousands in one fell swoop. The second reason terrorist groups use CBRN agents may be the deliberate and intentional use of violence, force and fear to create a psychological intimidation effect. A third possible reason for reaching for CBRN weapons is to intend to negotiate from a position of strength and psychological advantage. It is obvious to the bombers that a credible threat of the use of chemical, biological or nuclear weapons could hardly be left unanswered by either the government or public security services. These are not the only motives of these criminal groups. Bombers also use CBRN weapons to inflict economic damage to the environment of a country or region.²

The context and complexity of the issue prompts the analysis of methods of interoperability and cooperation between the services responsible for public security and the entities responsible for health protection. The analysis of this topic also requires a discussion of the applicable legal regulations in the context of the risk of CBRN measures, because they define the scope of responsibilities, procedures, the principles of cooperation and information exchange between individual services and entities. This study consists of three parts. The first part discusses the concepts of public health and safety. The second part analyzes methods of cooperation and training provided for the needs of security services. The third part presents legal regulations concerning the procedure in the event of a threat or incident involving CBRN measures.

Security and threat – the essence and semantic scope of terms

The term “security” is derived from Latin *securus*, meaning freedom from anxiety. Security can be understood as protection from, or resilience against any possible harm caused by others. Security is afforded to individuals and social groups, animals, objects and institutions, ecosystems or any other entities at risk of uninvited change. The term “security” refers to the protection from hostile or suppressive forces, however it has a wide range of other meanings: absence of harm, presence of essential goods, resilience against potential damage and a state of mind.³

2 D.J. Mierzejewski, *Bezpieczeństwo europejskie w warunkach przemian globalizacyjnych*, Toruń 2011, pp. 153-154.

3 *Origin and meaning of security and secure*, 06.04.2019, Online Etymology Dictionary, <https://www.etymonline.com/word/secure> (access: 24.02.2024).

A security threat is a situation, phenomenon or event that negatively affects systems of values, generating a threat to life and health, conditions of existence, private and public property, and the natural environment.⁴ The function and performance of the formations whose task is to ensure security is an indispensable element of each state. In the most general terms, the concept of security can be defined either as a state of peace or as a process, i.e. undertaking various types of activities aimed at creating a space free of danger in which a person can function normally, without a fear of losing valuable goods and values.⁵ In the context of CBRN danger, it should be clearly emphasized that if such agents are engaged, life and health are at risk, which means that public safety and health security are challenged or put to the test.

In legal texts, the most frequently described type of security is “public security”. Many authors unanimously emphasize that public safety is a certain positive state in the state. Therefore, the legal scope of the public security concept reflects the status of a state with its political system, authorities and citizens, their life, health and property. There is a thesis that public safety depends on good and humanitarian law, well-functioning public administration and society itself.⁶

On the other hand, an analysis of several definitions of public safety will allow us to present the essence and meaning of this concept. Public safety is defined as the conditions and institutions that protect the life, health and property of citizens as well as national property against phenomena that are dangerous to its social order.⁷ Zaborowski defines public safety as conditions and circumstances within the state that allow the functioning of the state and the pursuit of its interests, preserving the life, health and property of citizens, and the full enjoyment of rights and freedoms guaranteed by the Constitution and other legal provisions, without exposure to norm damage.⁸ According to Ściborek, public safety is a state in which citizens can freely exercise their civil rights and freedoms.⁹ On the other hand, according to Kitler, public safety is a process encompassing various actions and measures aimed at protecting the legal order in the state against the actions that are

4 R. Jakubczak, J. Flis (eds.), *Bezpieczeństwo narodowe Polski w XXI wieku. Wyzwania i strategie*, Warsaw 2006, p. 98.

5 See W. Lis, *Bezpieczeństwo wewnętrzne i porządek publiczny jako sfera działania administracji publicznej*, Lublin 2015, p. 39.

6 A. Osierda, *Prawne aspekty pojęcia bezpieczeństwa i porządku publicznego*, “*Studia Iuridica Lublensia*” 2014, No. 23, p. 94.

7 O. Wasiuta, R. Klepka, R. Kopeć (eds.), *Vademecum bezpieczeństwa*, Kraków 2018, pp. 137-138.

8 J. Zaborowski, *Administracyjnoprawne ujęcie pojęć “bezpieczeństwo publiczne” i “porządek publiczny” (niektóre uwagi w świetle unormowań prawnych) 1983–1984*, “*Zeszyty Naukowe Akademii Spraw Wewnętrznych*” 1985, No. 41, p. 91.

9 Z. Ściborek, *Bezpieczeństwo wewnętrzne. Podręcznik akademicki*, Toruń 2017, p. 42.

forbidden and harm public institutions, human life and health or public order, as well as social norms and customs.¹⁰ Meanwhile, Gierszewski defines public safety as an integral element of the state's internal security system, which is a collection of authorities, schemes and methods of action related to the protection of life and health of citizens and national property – against unlawful activities.¹¹ Analyzing the above-mentioned definitions, the author agrees with the last of them, i.e. the one offered by Gierszewski.

The subject of this study also requires defining the concept of health security, which will allow the understanding of the extent to which it differs from public security. Health safety is an interdisciplinary issue that fits well the area of interest in security studies, political science, pedagogy, psychology, management studies, natural sciences, medical sciences and law.¹² The World Health Organization (WHO) that works to promote public health around the world, defines health security in a multidimensional way, as activities required to minimize the danger and impact of acute public health events that endanger people's health across geographical regions and international boundaries, taking into account the physical, mental and social well-being of a person. WHO treats public health not only as the absence of disease or disability. Global public health security is defined as activities required, both proactive and reactive, to minimize the danger and impact of acute public health events that endanger people's health across geographical regions and international boundaries.¹³

According to the definition proposed by Grzywna, health safety should be understood as the state's efforts to ensure conditions (social, economic and environmental) enabling the exercise of the right to health protection, a right whose essential element is the guarantee of access to medical services on equal terms for each beneficiary.¹⁴ In the opinion of this author, access to health services is the basis of health security – he therefore distinguishes two levels of health security understood in the following way: objective (the state's implementation of the right to health protection) and subjective (social expectations towards this system).

10 W. Kitler, *Organizacja bezpieczeństwa narodowego RP w kontekście ochrony ładu wewnętrznego w państwie*, "Zeszyty Naukowe AON" 2013, No. 4, p. 131.

11 J. Gierszewski, *Bezpieczeństwo wewnętrzne. Zarys systemu*, Warsaw 2013, p. 53.

12 O. Wasiuta, R. Klepka, R. Kopeć (eds.), *Vademecum...*, p. 171.

13 Constitution of the World Health Organization, <https://www.who.int/about/governance/constitution> (access: 22.02.2024).

14 P. Grzywna, *Bezpieczeństwo zdrowotne w nauce o polityce społecznej. Wprowadzenie do dyskusji*, Katowice 2017, p. 23.

By design, security is characterized by and associated with instability. It is a constantly changing process. It seems impossible to completely eliminate danger and dangerous situations. In this sense, the term threat is the opposite to security.¹⁵ At this point, the essence of the concept of threat as well as the source of threats are worth analyzing. In everyday speech, the concept of danger is understood intuitively and is related to a person's concern or anxiety about the most important values (life, health, freedom or property).¹⁶ However, as in the case of security, there is no consensus as to a single binding definition. The literature does not offer an unambiguous interpretation. A narrow definition of a threat refers to the category of difficult and crisis situations. According to this definition, a threat occurs when a person is afraid of losing the highest values, including, first of all, life and health. In the most general terms, a threat is defined as the occurrence of a situation or event that is dangerous for a specific entity, object or system. It may refer to the living conditions of an individual, group or nation in a specific area, or in the global sense, of the whole of humanity. According to the definition proposed by Ciekanski, a threat is a state of insecurity and also the actions taken to avoid and minimize this state.¹⁷ On the other hand, Ficoń defines a threat as an event resulting from random (natural) or non-random (intentional) causes that have a negative impact on the functioning of a given system or causes dangerous changes in its internal or external environment. In the opinion of the author of the article, this definition reflects the essence of a threat most accurately. It should be stressed that the element that distinguishes this approach to danger is the fact that the threat is caused by natural causes or deliberate actions. Depending on the source of their occurrence, threats can be divided into those caused by forces of nature and those caused by the human activity. Forces of nature (elements) can cause fires, floods, landslides, weather anomalies, which can in turn lead to an ecological disaster. Man, acting intentionally or unintentionally against the laws of nature or another human being, may contribute to the creation of other dangerous threats, which may result in a life-threatening technical failure or an ecological catastrophe. Threats to public safety as a result of direct human activity may include acts of terrorism, an armed conflict or even war.¹⁸ Specialized services are

15 B. Bonisławska, *Współczesne zagrożenia dla bezpieczeństwa publicznego*, "Zeszyty Naukowe WSEI Administracja" 2012, No. 2, p. 116.

16 J. Falecki, *Teoretyczne aspekty zarządzania kryzysowego*, in: J. Stawnicka, B. Wiśniewski, R. Socha (eds.), *Zarządzanie kryzysowe. Teoria, praktyka. Konteksty, badania*, Szczytno 2011, p. 17.

17 Z. Ciekanski, *Rodzaje i źródła zagrożeń bezpieczeństwa*, "Nauki Humanistyczne i Społeczne na Rzecz Bezpieczeństwa" 2010, No. 6, p. 28.

18 See K. Ficoń, *Inżynieria zarządzania kryzysowego. Podejście systemowe*, Warsaw 2007, p. 76.

responsible for ensuring public safety and health. The catalog of these bodies is relatively extensive, which results from the variety of tasks that have been entrusted to them. The bodies intended and dedicated to the protection of public security include primarily uniformed formations. Despite the fact that this concept has not been legally defined, there is no doubt that the uniform distinguishes its wearers, identifying them with a given service, and, at the same time, obliging them to behave in a dignified manner.¹⁹ These services include the Police, State Fire Service, Customs Service and specialized guards (Border Guard, City Guard).²⁰ The methods of cooperation between these services consist in the exchange of information, performing joint service and participating in joint training, providing assistance, or sharing equipment and resources. The key entities cooperating with the Police in maintaining public safety are government administration and local government bodies. These entities perform tasks in the field of security and public order protection together with the Police in a defined area.²¹ The specificity of this service includes the rule that in the event of any crisis situation, the interest of an officer in uniformed services gives way to welfare because public safety and order must be protected.²²

However, it should be emphasized that the greatest burden related to the implementation of tasks aimed at ensuring and protecting public safety and order rests with the government administration. The role of other bodies and actors in this field is only auxiliary and complementary.²³ In this context, it should be stressed that the legislator in Article 5 of the Constitution of the Republic of Poland²⁴ obliged the state authorities to undertake actions aimed at protecting citizens against any public menace, including terrorism and CBRN-related danger. For this purpose, the legislator created a security system based on specialized public administration bodies that ensure the required level of security within the state organization.

19 See J. Świącicki, *Ogólne zasady przygotowania sił i środków cywilnej służby zdrowia do ratowania zdrowia i życia ludzi w sytuacjach nadzwyczajnych i w czasie wojny*, Warsaw 2002, p. 50.

20 See S. Pieprzny, E. Ura, *Formacje mundurowe w systemie administracji publicznej*, in: S. Pieprzny, E. Ura (eds.), *Służby i formacje mundurowe w systemie bezpieczeństwa wewnętrznego Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej*, Rzeszów 2010, pp. 15-16.

21 M. Kopczewski, *Bezpieczeństwo wewnętrzne państwa – wybrane elementy*, "Studia społeczno-polityczne" 2013, No. 10/UPH, p. 107.

22 S. Pieprzny, E. Ura, *Formacje mundurowe...*, p. 20.

23 See S. Pieprzny, *Administracja bezpieczeństwa i porządku publicznego*, Rzeszów 2008, p. 73.

24 Art. 5 of The Constitution of the Republic of Poland of 2 April 1997.

Training programs and cooperation between public security and health care service

CBRN threats require good coordination and close cooperation of many services in the field of prevention, response, decontamination and scene reconstruction. At the prevention stage, the Police play a key role. However, in the response phase, the main burden rests not only with the Police, but also with the State Fire Service, military staff, environmental protection inspectorates, health care and many other entities. In addition, the administrative reform has assigned broad responsibility for maintaining public safety to local self-governments. Emergency and medical services must also be engaged in incidents that involve a threat of the use of CBRN agents. It should be emphasized here that the exposure to hazardous materials poses a risk to the life and health of not only accidental participants of the incident, but also emergency personnel involved in providing aid. Unfortunately, the preparation of medical personnel to act in the conditions of the above-mentioned threats still leaves much to be desired. Numerous studies confirm the deficit of knowledge and competences of medical personnel at all levels (pre-hospital, early-hospital and specialist care).²⁵ At the same time, some actions aimed at solving this problem can already be seen.

In the context of medical rescue, hazardous material is understood as an any substance of biological, chemical, radiation and nuclear origin which, by acting on the body, causes a serious threat to health or life – regardless of whether it poses a threat only to a single person, or has the potential to cause mass losses. Hence, medical rescue must be ready to respond to such events, regardless of their nature, size and number of victims.²⁶ The conditions in which medical services must operate require specialist protection of medical personnel, which includes the use of personal protective equipment (PPE), i.e. respiratory protection measures and means of protection against skin contamination (protective suits). Today, the approach of the medical personnel to providing assistance to victims of incidents that involve hazardous materials is less procedural, but more based on professional knowledge and professional risk analysis. The change of approach was forced by the expectations of the society resulting from greater awareness of threats.

Inter-service collaboration and the implementation of procedures to mitigate chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear risks are the main objectives of a new project called “Strengthening CBRNE Security – Coordination and Standardization”.

25 A. Trzos, I. K. Łyziński, K. Jurkowski, *Ratownictwo medyczne w zdarzeniach CBRNE/HAZMAT*, “Safety & Fire Technology” 2019, No. 54(2), p. 143.

26 *Ibidem*, p. 144.

The project has been implemented since May 2021 by the Internal Security Agency in cooperation with the Military University of Technology and other partners. The official meeting inaugurating the project implementation took place recently, in September 2021. On the part of the Military University of Technology, the Faculty of Cybernetics and an inter-faculty team from the Institute of Optoelectronics and the Faculty of New Technologies and Chemistry participate in the project. The project is coordinated by the Internal Security Agency. The aim of the project is to improve the security of the state and its citizens by preventing and combating CBRNE threats (the so-called chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear agents and explosives). This undertaking is a response to the needs of various services in the field of cooperation and standardization of procedures, enabling the appropriate actions to be taken, both in the event of a threat and a crisis resulting from the use of CBRNE agents. Completion of the project is scheduled for 2024. Its total value is over EUR 7 million. The amount of co-financing from the Norwegian Financing Mechanism is EUR 6 million. ISA's partners in the implementation of the program, in addition to the Military University of Technology, are the Polish Academy of Sciences, the Ministry of Health, the National Atomic Energy Agency, the Government Center for Security, the Main School of Fire Service, the University of Łódź, the Jagiellonian University – Collegium Medium, the Norwegian Directorate for Civil Protection and Norwegian Defense.²⁷

The training organized for police officers and paramedics on CBRN threats was an example of cooperation between public security services and medical entities. In May 2021, the first in a series of trainings took place. It was entitled “The Recognition and Neutralization of CBRN threats on the premises of CI facilities”. This project was co-financed by the European Union. Educational activities covered the topics of identifying and neutralizing chemical, biological, nuclear, radiological and explosive threats. During theoretical and practical classes, training participants gained knowledge related to the detection, identification and protection against the following threats:

- chemicals, such as combat and industrial poisons, synthetic opioids, or substances used in “chemical suicides”;
- biological – related not only to pathogens used in biological weapons, but also to other threats involving contamination with biological material;

²⁷ E. Jankiewicz, *WAT i ABW współpracują w zakresie zagrożeń CBRNE*, 21 September 2021, Wojsko Polskie, <https://www.wojsko-polskie.pl/wat/articles/aktualnosci-w/wat-i-abw-wspolpracuja-w-zakresie-zagrozen-cbrne> (access: 12.07.2022).

- radiological and nuclear threat related to radiation sources – for example radioactive waste;
- threats related to explosive materials and devices, including improvised explosives and devices, and the precursors used for their production.

The staff of the Fire Service have been trained as part of developing such cooperation. One of the training sessions took place in September 2017 at the Main School of Fire Service in Warsaw. This school is a public university that educates firefighters of the State Fire Service, trains officers of other services, paramedics and civilians in the field of public safety and civil protection. The above-mentioned training concerned responding to threats related to the occurrence of CBRN mass destruction factors. The idea of the training was born in connection with the activities performed by firefighters to prevent and counteract terrorist threats. Professional implementation of such tasks requires special skills from forensic experts who serve, inter alia, in the Forensic Research Bureau of the Internal Security Agency. Fourteen officers of the BBK ISA participated in the training. The entire training included lectures and exercises in the field of biological, radiological and chemical threats. In the first part of the training, biological factors were discussed, including cellular microorganisms, internal parasites, cell-free units capable of carrying genetic material, including genetically modified cell cultures. The second part of the training was devoted to the quantitative and qualitative control of harmful biological agents. During the training, the individual stages of rescue operations were also presented: reporting an incident, dispatching, on-site reconnaissance, as well as the implementation and completion of the action. The problem of dividing and marking the rescue operation area into zones was also explained. On the last day of the training, full-day exercises on chemical hazards were held. During the exercises, a rescue vehicle with the equipment used for chemical rescue was presented. In the practical part, the sequence of putting on a rescuer's personal protective equipment was practiced.²⁸ To sum up, the aim of the training was to increase the skills of dealing with CBRN terrorist threats among specialized units who act for the benefit of public security, as well as to develop a model of cooperation of all emergency services during this type of threat. In the opinion of the participants of the training, the training had a high substantive value.

Another entity that conducted exercises in the field of risks related to the use of CBRN substances were special units of the Internal Security Agency. These exercises were carried out in cooperation with representatives of the Polish Airports

²⁸ A. Łasińska, *Szkolenie z zakresu reagowania na zdarzenia z udziałem czynnika CBRN*, "Przegląd Bezpieczeństwa Wewnętrznego" 2019, No. 20(11), p. 209.

State Enterprise and representatives of the Fire Service, and with the participation of other uniformed and rescue services. The classes were delivered in June 2021. During the first day of operations, at the training ground near Warsaw, explosives were prepared and detonated to determine the scale of possible damage caused by their use in public space. During the second day of the exercises, the environmental susceptibility to threats related to breaking safety procedures at the airport was tested. For this purpose, simulated contamination of an airport bus with the use of chemicals was triggered. Thanks to the cooperation of many entities, the training allowed the achievement of the intended goal. It was an opportunity to exchange experiences and to expand participants' knowledge about the risks associated with the use of CBRN agents. Additionally, the conducted exercises contributed to increasing the safety level of airport employees as well as passengers who use civil aviation. The knowledge acquired during the training will be used by officers of the ISA Terrorist Prevention Center to better cooperate with operators and administrators of public space.²⁹

In order to strengthen cooperation between public security services and medical services, the ISA Terrorist Prevention Center has also made available an educational internet portal intended to provide knowledge about terrorist threats. Already in the first month of operation, the portal was viewed by over 12,000 users. Its users are representatives of the Ministry of Interior and Administration, officers of the Police, Border Guard, Prison Service, State Fire Service, National Revenue Administration, State Protection Service or representatives of the Office for Foreigners, the Government Center for Security, as well as paramedics. ISA emphasizes that this e-learning platform is a convenient tool for education and exchange of knowledge in the field of terrorism prevention. Therefore, the Internal Security Agency tries to promote its project most extensively in order to encourage as many officers and medical entities as possible to register on the portal and participate in on-line training. The portal was created thanks to the funds from the European Social Fund as a part of "increasing the competences of state security services, employees of public administration and research and development centers and the development of their cooperation in the area of national security."³⁰

²⁹ "Większa świadomość, większe bezpieczeństwo". ABW ćwiczy z IED i CBRN, 21.07.2021, Infosecurity24, <https://infosecurity24.pl/sluzby-specjalne/wieksza-swiadomosc-wieksze-bezpieczenstwo-abw-cwiczy-z-ied-i-cbrn> (access: 12.07.2022).

³⁰ The e-learning platform is available at: <https://learning.tpcoe.gov.pl/> (access: 15.07.2022).

Conclusions

In Poland, there are many emergency and rescue services responsible for ensuring public safety and counteracting threats related to the use of CBRN agents and materials. All of them carry out tasks resulting from the law in force and take part in rescue operations related to prevention, response, protection of life and health, and the recovery of resources after the threat elimination. In the author's opinion, all these services still lack coordination and the ability of systemic cooperation. The biggest gap can be seen in the field of cooperation between services responsible for public safety and medical entities. The safety services and the health care service are still two separate sectors that lack real integration and harmonious cooperation. Meanwhile, the growing interest in obtaining toxic, biological and radiological materials for criminal use confirms the urgent need for cooperation between all services, including the exchange of knowledge and practical skills.

Close cooperation between the services responsible for public safety and medical entities responsible for life and health protection would give a synergy effect if these services had a common IT system providing access to the necessary and critical information on the type and level of risk, as well as available logistic and human resources. Such a system would allow the development of a model of cooperation between rescue and medical services during an emergency. Ideally, the cooperation should be regulated by a coherent legal act and consistent legal provisions. It seems that an integrated IT system that would automatically delegate tasks to the relevant services could be an optimal tool to facilitate this type of cooperation. The 112 emergency number performs this function only partially and to a limited extent.

The author believes that when it comes to CBRN incidents, in which it is necessary to combine the forces of uniformed services with the knowledge of medical personnel, it is necessary to implement a system solution for the simultaneous exchange of information. Such a solution could take the form of an integrated platform that would allow all services participating in the rescue operation to log in and access information as quickly as possible. To a limited extent, this function is performed by the 112 emergency number, which is an emergency notification system. This system consists of 17 notification centers - one in each voivodeship city. Reports from 112 are sent to emergency number operators employed in the above-mentioned centers. After receiving the notification, the operators provide all information to the appropriate dispatchers of the State Fire Service and the Police. Only these services decide about the involvement of appropriate units and structures. Recently, the "Alarm 112" mobile application has also been available. The application allows users to send an emergency notification in the event of a threat to life, health and public safety. The application was developed for people who cannot

make a voice call. These include mute, deaf and hard of hearing people. "Alarm 112" allows callers to select appropriate pictograms that define the type and place of the event and to indicate the service whose help is required at a given moment.

The 112 emergency number only partially functions as an information exchange tool, but it does not do it automatically and requires the intermediation of the operator at every stage. Consequently, in the author's opinion, each activity related to accepting the notification and providing help takes too long. Moreover, it is not a system that automatically and in an integrated manner informs all services responsible for ensuring public safety. The process of progressive computerization of hospitals and emergency medical services may be optimistic. The implemented tools already allow the integration of the State Medical Emergency System (PRM) with hospital systems. This means that there is information flow between cooperating entities, and above all, support from related specialist centers, such as toxicological information and psychological support centers, may be obtained. Command support systems (SWD) have been implemented into the PRM System, which enable access to information about the logistic resources of the rescue system and hospitals' treatment resources. Thanks to these tools, medical services have immediate access to information about treatment options for patients injured in CBRN incidents. Unfortunately, these tools are in no way integrated with the systems used by the services responsible for public safety.³¹

Finally, it should be emphasized that the matter presented above is general in nature and certainly does not exhaust the subject. However, it can be a starting point for further discussion on how to improve and optimize cooperation between public security services and medical entities. In the light of the above, it should be said that there is still much to be done in terms of CBRN prevention and the effects of CBRN use.

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³¹ A. Trzos, *Przygotowanie oddziału ratunkowego na zagrożenia CBRNiE*, "Na Ratunek" 2020, No. 3, p. 34.

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Współpraca i interoperacyjność służb bezpieczeństwa publicznego i służb medycznych w aspekcie zagrożeń CBRN na terytorium RP

Streszczenie

W artykule poruszono problematykę współpracy i interoperacyjności pomiędzy służbami odpowiedzialnymi za bezpieczeństwo publiczne a służbami ratowniczymi, w tym jednostkami ratownictwa medycznego. Temat wydaje się interesujący ze względu na narastający problem zagrożeń wynikających z ewentualnego wykorzystania środków CBRN. Z reguły toksyczne chemikalia, wszelkiego rodzaju patogeny oraz substancje radioaktywne i nuklearne mogą wymknąć się spod kontroli, ale można je również wykorzystać celowo – w atakach terrorystycznych. Stanowią one poważne zagrożenie dla zdrowia i życia, a także środowiska. Autor stawia tezę, że w kontekście tego typu zagrożenia współpraca pomiędzy podmiotami wyznaczonymi do ratowania zdrowia i życia jest niewystarczająca i bezwzględnie wymaga wdrożenia metod zapewniających lepszą koordynację działań. Na podstawie dostępnej literatury przedmiotu w artykule omówiono pojęcia bezpieczeństwa publicznego oraz bezpieczeństwa zdrowotnego, a także stojące przed nimi zagrożenia. Celem opracowania jest analiza wspólnych szkoleń, metod i systemów współpracy służb odpowiedzialnych za bezpieczeństwo publiczne, w szczególności zasad powiadamiania i informowania o zagrożeniach związanych z możliwym wykorzystaniem CBRN, głównie w zakresie zapobiegania tym zagrożeniom, reagowania na nie oraz przeciwdziałania i podejmowania odpowiednich działań ochronnych. W artykule poruszono problematykę obowiązków, zakresu odpowiedzialności i kompetencji poszczególnych formacji w świetle obowiązujących regulacji prawnych. Omówiono także nierozwiązany problem niedostatecznej koordynacji i wymiany informacji podczas prowadzenia działań. Wskazano rozwiązania i rekomendacje, które mogłyby wypełnić tę lukę z korzyścią dla bezpieczeństwa publicznego i organów państwa. Metodą badawczą przyjętą na potrzeby niniejszego opracowania jest analiza literatury przedmiotu.

Słowa kluczowe: bezpieczeństwo publiczne, służby bezpieczeństwa publicznego, podmioty medyczne, zagrożenia CBRN

CYTOWANIE

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