

The Cooperation of the Police Academy in Szczytno with Polish Security and Public Order Formations

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Abstract. *The Police Academy in Szczytno has a long and very variable history. Over the years, in place of existing militia schools of a military nature, new ones have been created, which were to meet the didactic needs of the then Civic Militia. Political changes from the early 1990s brought a wave of reforms in various areas of social and political life in The Republic of Poland. Serious reforms also concerned the security and public order authorities, including the newly appointed Police. A number of major changes were introduced to the level of police education, and in particular in the newly established Police Academy in Szczytno. These were not only formal changes, but ones that actually diametrically changed the profile and functioning of the academy. It was on the wave of these changes that the academy boldly started, and in the following years intensively developed, cooperation with Polish security and public order formations, to an extent that had not been done here until then. In this article, the author wishes to demonstrate, in a synthetic way, the participation of the academy in the process of improving the staff of the Polish security and public order system through intensively conducted cooperation in this field, not only in the didactic dimension, but also in scientific research.*

Keywords: police education, security and public order, national security system, cooperation

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Introduction

The essence of the functioning of a modern country, both in the external and internal dimensions, is ensuring security in the broad sense. It is revealed by, i.a. striving to provide its citizens and other people within its jurisdiction, and thus also the entities that they represent, with care by means of reducing risks. It concerns any threats which affect the current state security in terms of security as a state as well as the future state security in terms of security as a long-term process¹. The overall activity is determined by the multitude of factors which make it necessary to design and implement new solutions as part of ameliorating the national security system.

In this context, the modern state is constantly under the influence of many factors, including those which, despite the challenges, risks and opportunities, seem to be crucial for the security of the individual, i.e. threats.

The concept of a threat is directly related to security because most frequently, the threat is seen as its opposite. It is impossible to overlook that '(...) 'security' and 'threat' describe the same phenomenon, but in opposite poles (...) 'security' and 'threat' describe how the impact of a phenomena on its further existence

¹ More: Wiśniewski B, System bezpieczeństwa państwa. Konteksty teoretyczne i praktyczne. Szczytno, 2013, pp. 37–48.

is perceived, and the ability to shape its content freely — satisfying needs and aspirations². As Włodzimierz Fehler notes, ‘threats constitute the events and processes that accompany human civilisation which appear in different configurations and cause a violation of the balance (or prevent it from achieving this balance). They concern not only those who are in permanent connection or in temporary correlations of socio-political entities (individuals, social groups, countries, associations of countries, etc.), but also all of the components that create the material and spiritual environment of human life³.

Referring to the above, the substance of the country is exposed, as a political organisation established to ensure both the existence and development of its community. According to Konstanty Adam Wojtaszczyk, the contemporary country, while realising the assigned tasks also in the abovementioned scope, is active within many dedicated functions, such as:

- the external function, manifested in engagement on the international stage by establishing diplomatic relations with other countries and international organisations, primarily in order to protect its interests, including sovereignty;
- the internal function, to ensure order and security within the country;
- the economic and organisational function, revealed by means of organising the economic sphere, including the impact on economic processes;
- the adaptive function, which essentially entails accommodating the country to the changing conditions of civilisation;
- the social function, reported to be an activity in the social sphere aimed at providing its citizens with social security;
- the regulatory function, intended to regulate social processes;
- the innovative function, manifested in the improvement of processes which the state remains responsible for⁴.

Public security as a protected value

In the context of the current reflections, the most important one remains the internal function, as among all the types of security that are continuously ensured by the country, providing public security by the state seems to be a priority for the existence of an individual.

What is the category of national security in question and, more precisely, what is public security? While attempting to analyse the source literature in order to determine the definition of the term ‘public security’, the ambiguity in terms of its content can be clearly visible, especially when it comes to the subjective context. For instance, Marek Lisiecki believes, emphasising the role of an individual

² Babiński A, Zagrożenie, [in:] Jakubczak R, Wiśniewski B (Eds), *Wyzwania, szanse, zagrożenia i ryzyko dla bezpieczeństwa narodowego RP o charakterze wewnętrznym*. Szczepiń, 2016, p. 61.

³ Fehler W, Zagrożenie — kluczowa kategoria teorii bezpieczeństwa, [in:] Jałoszyński K, Wiśniewski B, Wojtuszek T (Eds), *Współczesne postrzeganie bezpieczeństwa*. Bielsko-Biała, 2007, p. 9.

⁴ *More: Wojtaszczyk K.A, Kompendium wiedzy o państwie współczesnym*. Warsaw, 2000, pp. 22–24.

as an entity of public security in his definition, that public security is represented by the totality of social conditions as well as the norms that protect the citizens against life- or health-threatening phenomena, and may cause serious economic losses⁵. Stanisław Pikulski perceives this category of security differently, expanding its subjective scope. In his opinion, it is such a state of the country's functioning that allows an undisturbed operation of public devices in the country, and ensures the safety of citizens' lives by protecting their lives, health, and property⁶. Waldemar Kitler presents a similar view in this regard, as he claims that public security is associated with the normal functioning of the country and its citizens while ensuring protection against any unlawful activities which violate the established social order, thereby harming life, health, or public order⁷. According to Janusz Gierszewski, public security is also 'a process and a factual state within the country which enables the normal functioning of the state's political structures, as well as the protection of life, health, and property of the citizens while guaranteeing their civil liberties'⁸. Nonetheless, an alternate standpoint is presented by Andrzej Misiuk, who notes that it is the country which is the primary subject. He claims that public security is associated with a lack of threats directed towards the state organisation and its interests, enabling its free development⁹. Robert Gwardyński provides an unusual approach to security, including public security. In his opinion, it constitutes a socially desirable work of an entity (individual, team, institution) who, by means of their activity, makes the product (state, society) or individuals resistant to threats that are legally prohibited works (deeds)¹⁰. Referring to the praxeological context and security, it should be indicated that although not all security is a creation, public security certainly belongs to this category due to the fact that the effect of a consciously directed impulse of any violator prevents counterattacks not by accident or by nature, but by human will transformed into action¹¹.

The above few examples represent just part of the broad concept of public security. However, this is not just a contemporary problem because according to Włodzimir Fehler for instance, any difficulties in a homogeneous determination of public security were already recorded in the interwar period¹². Despite of the fact that the security environment of those times has changed dramatically when

⁵ *Compare:* Lisiecki M, Jakość w zarządzaniu bezpieczeństwem obywateli. Lublin, 2009, p. 81.

⁶ *Compare:* Pikulski S, Podstawowe zagadnienia bezpieczeństwa publicznego, [in:] Bednarek W, Pikulski S (Eds), Prawne i administracyjne aspekty bezpieczeństwa osób i porządku publicznego w okresie transformacji ustrojowo-gospodarczej. Olsztyn, 2000, p. 101.

⁷ *Compare:* Kitler W, Skrabacz A, Bezpieczeństwo ludności cywilnej. Pojęcie, organizacja i zadania w czasie pokoju, kryzysu i wojny. Warsaw, 2010, p. 54.

⁸ Gierszewski J, Bezpieczeństwo wewnętrzne. Zarys systemu. Warsaw, 2013, p. 88.

⁹ *Compare:* Misiuk A, Administracja porządku i bezpieczeństwa publicznego. Warsaw, 2008, p. 17.

¹⁰ *More:* Gwardyński R, Safety in Praxeological Approach, [in:] Wiśniewski B, Sander G.G, Kobes P (Eds), Security Threats, Law and Organization. Hamburg, 2019, p. 10.

¹¹ *More:* Gwardyński R, System bezpieczeństwa państwa w ujęciu praxeologicznym. Zeszyty Naukowe Państwowej Wyższej Szkoły Zawodowej im. Witelona w Legnicy, 2019, Vol. 33, Issue 4, p. 55.

¹² *More:* Fehler W, Bezpieczeństwo wewnętrzne współczesnej Polski. Aspekty teoretyczne i praktyczne. Warsaw, 2012, pp. 37–40.

compared to the present, the terminological problem remains, which indicates the extraordinary complexity of the issue. The Constitution of the Republic of Poland emphasises the weight of public security in the sphere of functioning of a modern country. Art. 5 of the Constitution, it declares that 'the Republic of Poland shall safeguard the independence and integrity of its territory, ensure human and citizen freedoms and rights, and the security of its citizens (...)'. The significance of public security for the functioning of the country is evidenced by the possibility of limiting fundamental civil rights and freedoms, which is clearly presented by the Constitution. This warning is expressed by Art. 31, where in section 3, the Constitution stipulates that 'restrictions on the exercise of constitutional freedoms and rights may be established only by statute, and only if they are necessary in a democratic country for its security or public order (...)'. Art. 45 seems to sound quite similar. 'Everyone shall have the right to a fair and public hearing of their case, without undue delay, before a competent, impartial and independent court (...)

Exceptions to the public nature of hearings may be made for reasons of morality, State security, public order, or protection of the private life of the parties (...). Art. 53 also introduces restrictions, stating that 'Freedom of conscience and religion shall be ensured to everyone (...) The freedom to publicly express religion may be limited (...) where this is necessary for the defence of State security, public order (...)'. The fundamental right to freedom of obtaining information on the activities of public authorities, as defined in Art. 61 may be subject to restrictions for these reasons. The Constitution provides that 'A citizen shall have the right to obtain information on the activities of organs of public authority as well as persons discharging public functions. Such right shall also include receipt of information on the activities of self-governing economic or professional organs and other persons or organizational units relating to the field in which they perform the duties of public authorities and manage communal assets or property of the State Treasury (...) Limitations upon the rights (...) may be imposed by statute solely to protect freedoms and rights of other persons and economic subjects, public order, security or important economic interests of the State (...)'. Finally, Art. 230, and its right granting the President of the Republic of Poland authority to introduce a state of emergency in the territory of the country when there is a threat of citizens security or public order, reveals the importance of this category of security.

Thus, public security is a constitutional value for the protection of which the nation agrees to limit its use of civil rights and freedoms. The protection of this value was entrusted in the Republic of Poland (Art. 146 of the Polish Constitution) to the highest executive authority next to the President of the Republic of Poland, i.e. the Council of Ministers. The question remains how to ensure public security is implemented here at the strategic level where fundamental, systemic activities are designed and implemented The question of ensuring public security is implemented here at the strategic level where fundamental, systemic activities are designed and implemented¹³. However, this is only part of the system of protecting public security. As Janusz Gierszewski notes, 'the institutional system includes bodies with offices of general and special jurisdiction. The public security subsystem can be defined as part of the internal security system of the country, constituting

¹³ *More: Wiśniewski B, System bezpieczeństwa..., op.cit., pp. 223–235.*

a set of public administration bodies, methods and ways of operation related to the protection of citizens' life and health, and national property against any unlawful activities'¹⁴. In Polish systemic and legal conditions, a leading role in the public security subsystem at the level of supreme state administrative bodies is performed by the minister competent for internal affairs, at the level of central state administrative bodies — the Chief Police Commander, while at the level of local state administrative bodies — voivodes together with the integrated administration, including local police units as well as non-integrated administration, that is, local governments.

Protection of public security and order

It should not be concluded from the foregoing data that only the Ministry of the Interior is competent to protect public security and order. This responsibility is more broadly defined, which is also illustrated by the subordination to various departments of services, guards carrying out tasks, and inspections being performed in the analysed area to a smaller or wider extent.

The number of services, guards, and inspections active in the field of security and public order is significant. Some of them are independent formations of public security and order, while the others only carry out a certain range of tasks in this area or perform tasks within other bodies. Due to editorial restrictions, only those whose scope of competence is considerable will be listed. This group includes for instance, on top of the already mentioned Police, also the Prison Service, State Protection Service, Customs and Tax Service, Border Guard, and Road Transport Inspection, National Labour Inspectorate, State Sanitary Inspection, City and Commune Guards, Railroad Guards, Fisheries Service, and Forest Service. It should be noted here that, to a considerable extent, tasks from this area are also performed by special services, especially those of the counter-intelligence and anti-corruption profile as well as from the level of the Armed Forces of the Polish Military Police. Furthermore, it is worth mentioning that the protection of the analysed area of state security is also provided by formations outside of the public sphere, such as Specialised Armed Protective Formations (SUFO).

An analysis of competences and tasks assigned to individual institutions in the public security subsystem allows it to be assumed that the Police still constitutes a leading institution in this area at the operational and tactical levels¹⁵. This thesis is supported not only by the provision of the Act on the Police, where in Art. 1, it was decided that 'The Police are being created as a uniformed and armed formation serving the society, and intended to protect people's security and maintain public safety and order'¹⁶, but also by the assumptions of the National Security Strategy of the Republic of Poland. The operational part of the Strategy in relation to the protective measures indicates that 'the foundation of maintaining public security

¹⁴ Gierszewski J, *Bezpieczeństwo wewnętrzne...*, *op.cit.*, p. 85.

¹⁵ *More: Wiśniewski B, Piątek Z (Eds), Współczesny wymiar funkcjonowania Policji*. Warsaw, 2009.

¹⁶ Ustawa z dnia 6 kwietnia 1990 o Policji, Dz. U. 1990, No. 30, item 179, as amended.

and order at the appropriate level comes down to the effective prevention of their violations as well as the detection of crimes and offences affecting the life, health and property of the citizens, and interests of the state. The tasks realised in this regard relate to various types of prohibited acts, including common crime as well as organised crime of an economic, drug, and criminal nature. (...) A crucial role will be also performed by the coordination of activities and cooperation with other entities of the national security system, including relevant public administrative bodies, and internal security services as well as foreign and international partners. The most important service that fulfils tasks in this area is formed by the Police, competent in the field of protection of life, health and property against unlawful attacks that violate these goods¹⁷. This conclusion may be drawn due to the analysis of the scope of the Polish Police's duties, among which, the prime one remains 'initiating and organising activities aimed at preventing crimes and offences from being committed, as well as criminogenic phenomena and cooperating in this respect with state bodies, local governments and social organisations'¹⁸.

At this point, it should be noted that also in the National Security Strategy, apart from activity aimed at directly counteracting threats, the need to create cooperation with other entities of the national security system was articulated. Considering the conclusions drawn above, it can be assumed that the Police also has the role of coordinator of cooperation at the operational and tactical level in the sphere of security and public order. It seems that the analysis of the above content makes it possible to recognise the Police as a leader in the area of activities related to the protection of public security and order in the Republic of Poland regarding the executive subsystem of the national security system¹⁹.

The above is essential due to the fact that in the modern world an effective minimisation of threats can only be achieved through cooperation between various state institutions, as none of them is able to deal with the present complex threats alone.

Cooperation in regard to public security and order has a dual dimension. On the one hand, it may be obligatory, and its scope is defined by generally applicable law (laws, regulations), and on the other hand, it is optional, and the freedom to create cooperation is left to the managers of the interested entities, certainly under the law, and therefore in relation to their competences and purpose, to enable more efficient implementation of the statutory assigned tasks by each entity. As Wiesław Mądrzejowski indicates, 'Cooperation between the Police and other services and institutions combating organised crime, is based on the numerous bilateral and multilateral agreements. They have a varying scope, and include:

- regulations for the exchange of information,
- creation of joint operational and investigation teams,
- technical cooperation,
- coordination of international cooperation,
- mutual logistic assistance,

¹⁷ Strategia Bezpieczeństwa Narodowego Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej z 2014 roku, pkt. 87.

¹⁸ Ustawa z dnia 6 kwietnia ..., *op. cit.*, Art. 1 ust. 2 pkt. 3.

¹⁹ See: Zieliński A, Bezpieczeństwo publiczne jako podstawowy obowiązek państwa ze szczególnym uwzględnieniem roli policji w tym obszarze działań. *Security, Economy & Law*, 2017 (XVI), Vol. 3, pp. 83–99.

— training of officers and employees²⁰.

This refers to a broader area than merely combating organised crime, as evidenced by the fact that analyses of the agreements concluded by both the Chief Police Commander, and the Commanders of the regional units show that all of them involve, in a narrower or wider sense, the areas of Police activity presented above. The agreements, depending on the needs of the institutions that conclude them, may have a more or less detailed scope of cooperation.

Scientific and didactic cooperation of the Police Academy in the context of public security and order protection

Referring to the current argument, it seems legitimate to claim that creating effective cooperation in the analysed area constitutes a form of activity aimed at protecting the special value of the country, that is, public security and order, as well as improving this protection. This context of deliberations, especially in the training dimension, reveals the significant role of training centres and Police schools (Police Training Centre in Legionowo, Police School in Piła, Police School in Słupsk, Police School in Katowice) and the only school within the Police structures with university rights within the meaning of the Law on Higher Education and Science²¹ — the Police Academy in Szczytno. The unit was established not only to educate the Police staff, but also to support in this respect other institutions cooperating with the Police.

The Police Academy in Szczytno began operating on 1st October 1990. From the very beginning, it was characterised as a real university with a professional Scientific Council (associate professors: dr hab. Wincenty Bednarek, dr hab. Jan Czerniakiewicz, dr hab. Zdzisław Galicki, dr hab. Mieczysław Goettel, dr hab. Stanisław Hoc, dr hab. Marek Lisiecki, dr hab. Bronisław Młodziejowski, dr hab. Mirosław Owoc, dr hab. Andrzej Peplowski, dr hab. Józef Skoczylas) and very experienced teaching staff. From the very beginning, the academy was intensively involved in the development of a platform for scientific and research as well as didactic cooperation with the institutions for the protection of public security and order, and also with civil research and teaching centres in the country and abroad. This was fully in line with the intention of the university's creators. As Andrzej Misiuk writes, 'The current Deputy Minister of the Interior, prof. Jan Widacki expressed the hope that the school in Szczytno would constitute a kind of compromise between a military barracks and a university (...) new political realities and the radically changed legal and political position of the Police established by the Act of April 6, 1990 required that the organisation of the academy and the tasks which it should fulfil were completely transferred. Pursuant to the abovementioned Act on Higher Military Education, and

²⁰ Mądrzejowski W, Prawne podstawy współdziałania służb i instytucji zwalczających przestępczość zorganizowaną w Polsce. *Kultura Bezpieczeństwa Nauka — Praktyka — Refleksje*, 2018, Vol. 29, p. 109.

²¹ Ustawa z dnia 20 lipca 2018 — Prawo o szkolnictwie wyższym i nauce, Dz.U. 2018, item 1668.

the statute of the Ministry of the Interior, the Academy was supervised by the Minister of the Interior. Therefore, it became the only university in the country educating Police officers, Border Guards, and other services reporting to the Minister of the Interior (BOR, UOP, Vistula units)²². Yet, in September 1991, an international scientific conference 'Legal and forensic aspects of organised crime', was held. Apart from representatives from abroad, there were also officers of the Office for State Protection²³. It was the beginning of a wider opening of the university to cooperation with executive entities in the sphere of public security and order. During the inauguration of the academic year in 1992, the head of the State Protection Office, Jerzy Konieczny, was present, which proved the close cooperation between the Police Academy in Szczytno and the current State Protection Office. In October 1993, a symposium on 'forensic and legal problems of modern crime' was also held. The Academy hosted then, i.a. the representatives of the Prosecutor General's Office, the Border Guard, the Office of State Protection, the Main Inspectorate of Treasury Control, the Central Board of Prison Facilities, and the Military Police. In April 1994, a training for full-time road traffic inspectors was conducted. In June 1994, the conference 'City Guards in the system of bodies responsible for public security and order' was also held²⁴.

However, it is the scientific, research, and didactic support within the Ministry of the Interior that became the main task of the Police Academy in the first years of its activity. In accordance with Art. 52 of the Act on Higher Military Education, the main goal of the university was to prepare the specialised staff to perform tasks related to the protection of state security, protection of public security and order, protection of the state border, and border traffic control as well as fire protection, and the scientific and teaching staff for schools, and research and development units supervised by the Minister of the Interior²⁵. To this end, among others, three-year administration studies were designed and implemented where the didactic process was carried out in both day and extramural systems.

Subsequent amendments extended the subjective scope of cooperation, which included officers of the Internal Security Agency, Intelligence Agency, Border Guard, soldiers of military units subordinated to The Minister of the Interior, and officers of the fire service. As early as in 1994, the first group of Border Guard officers educated in cooperation with The Border Guard Training Center in Ketrzyn received the graduation diplomas from the Police Academy. In 1997, a diploma ceremony for officers of the Office for State Protection took place.

The expansion of the activity of the Police Academy in this area was visible over the years. For example, in July 2000, officers of the Government Protection Bureau also completed officer training. In 2009, specialist training was conducted

²² Misiuk A, Wyższa Szkoła Policji w Szczytnie (1990-2000), [in:] Grabowski S, Majer P, Misiuk A, 40 lat policyjnego szkolnictwa wyższego w Szczytnie. Szczytno, 2012, p. 48.

²³ Babiński A, Kamassa D, 60 lat szkolnictwa policyjnego w Szczytnie (1954–2014). Szczytno, 2014, p. 134.

²⁴ *More*: Sprawozdanie z działalności WSPol. w roku 1992. Szczytno, 26.02.1993 and Sprawozdanie z działalności WSPol. w roku 1993. Szczytno, 28.02.1994.

²⁵ Ustawa z dnia 31 marca 1965 o wyższym szkolnictwie wojskowym. Dz.U. 1965, No. 14, item 102, as amended, Art. 52 ust. 3.

to prepare for the first-degree officer's examination at the Government Protection Bureau.

It is impossible not to mention the contribution of the Police College to the training of civilian students who are intended to provide security and public order services after graduating. The beginning of this process is dated to 1990, when the recruitment for a three-year full-time first degree for civilian high school graduates began. It is estimated that over the years 1990–2000, this mode of education was completed at the Police Academy by a few thousand graduates.

In the above context, the entry into force of the Act of 27 July 2005 Law on Higher Education was of paramount importance²⁶. Pursuant to its provisions, the Police Academy left the military education system and became part of the universal system of higher education. After academic control was taken over by the Polish Accreditation Commission in 2006, an Internal Security study course, developed at the Police Academy, was officially introduced by the minister responsible for higher education in the register of fields of study implemented in the country. Considering that, at that time, in institutions such as the Police, Border Guard, Internal Security Agency, Government Protection Bureau, and State Fire Service, several hundred thousand civil servants and officers were employed, by 'introducing the direction of internal security and adopting a different model of higher education, the Act of 2005 introduced a new quality — an open education system in this area'²⁷.

The discussed changes had groundbreaking significance for the Police Academy in Szczytno, because according to Andrzej Misiuk, 'In conjunction with the coming into force of a new law on higher education, the position of the Police Academy in Szczytno has undergone a qualitative transformation. Two currents of its basic didactic activity have formed: first, training activities for the Police — while performing this function, the school was a Police organisational unit; and second, higher education for state services subordinate to The Minister of the Interior and Administration. In the latter context, the Police Academy kept the status of a university'²⁸.

However, the offer of the Police Academy in Szczytno in terms of the improvement of the staff of entities performing tasks in the area of security and public order was not limited to the Ministry of the Interior. From a perspective of years, supplementary forms of education (e.g. postgraduate studies) were also organised for entities outside of the ministry, even for the Internal Security Agency, Foreign Intelligence Agency, Military Police, Counterintelligence Service, Customs Chamber, and representatives of government administration and local governments, fiscal control employees, and even for judges and public prosecutors²⁹. Main thematic

²⁶ Ustawa z dnia 27 lipca 2005 — Prawo o szkolnictwie wyższym. Dz.U. 2005, Vol. 164, item 1365.

²⁷ Misiuk A, *Wyższa Szkoła Policji...*, *op.cit.*, p. 60.

²⁸ *Ibid.*, p. 61.

²⁹ *More*: Sprawozdanie z realizacji planu pracy Wyższej Szkoły Policji w Szczytnie na 2003. Szczytno, 2004; Sprawozdanie z realizacji planu pracy Wyższej Szkoły Policji w Szczytnie na 2004. Szczytno, 2005; Sprawozdanie z pracy Wyższej Szkoły Policji w Szczytnie za rok 2005. Szczytno, 2006; Sprawozdanie z działalności w roku akademickim 2006/2007, Wyższa Szkoła Policji w Szczytnie.

scope of the mentioned assistance is crisis management, organised crime, including terrorism, criminal crime, and management of an organisational unit³⁰.

In the author's assessment, one of the forms of cooperation in the broad sense is knowledge- and experience-sharing through scientific publications. Although it has no direct dimension, it is difficult to refuse this activity its impact on knowledge development in the area being analysed here, also among cooperating entities. Since the establishment of the Police Academy in Szczytno, significant emphasis has been placed on this form of scientific activity, as exemplified by the reactivation in September 1991 of the 'Przegląd Policyjny' magazine, first issued in 1936–1939. As Wiesław Plywaczewski writes, 'The Police Academy in Szczytno also has significant achievements in this field, in the form of compact works, post-conference materials, and in reference to didactics, scripts, methodological guides, and other auxiliary materials. Two periodicals published by the school — 'Przegląd Policyjny' and 'Policja', created from the transformation of the Police Training Bulletin — occupy a separate place in this publishing offer (...) In accordance with editorial assumptions, it was supposed to be a magazine constituting a forum for exchanging experience and thoughts worrying the police not only in Poland, but also in other countries³¹. At this point, the English-language, semi-annual magazine, 'Internal Security', issued since 2009, should be mentioned. The role of these scientific magazines is to satisfy the demand for knowledge among institutions responsible for security and public order (also foreign), the use of which may directly or indirectly improve their effectiveness.

In subsequent years, the Police Academy in Szczytno has been signing new, and updating existing cooperation agreements. An analysis of the agreements accepted so far shows that the most important areas of cooperation are:

- joint scientific research and development works,
- participation in educational projects (conferences, seminars, workshops, study visits),
- mutual help in gaining, deepening, and exchanging the experiences and materials needed for planning and organising trainings and conducting research,
- exchange of non-confidential information and didactic materials and articles to publish in magazines,
- student exchange intended for their participation in educational, scientific and research ventures,
- organisation of staff visits of both parties to the agreements in order to exchange their experiences in the fields of education and scientific research.

As of the present day, cooperation with almost all entities which play an important role in the security and public order system in our country has been formalised. Among the representatives of such are even found the Border Guard Training Centre in Ketrzyn, Main School of Fire Service in Warsaw, Government

³⁰ More: Misiuk A, Wyższa Szkoła Policji..., *op.cit.*, pp. 63–66.

³¹ Plywaczewski W, Wyższa Szkoła Policji w Szczytnie. Osiemdziesięciolecie kontynuacji oficerskiego szkolnictwa policyjnego w Rzeczypospolitej, [in:] Majer P, Siemak Z (Eds), *Policyjne szkolnictwo oficerskie w latach 1919–2000*. Szczytno, 2000, pp. 71–72.

Centre for Security, Chamber of Tax Administration in Olsztyn, National Public Prosecutor's Office, President of the Personal Data Protection Office, and also the National School of Judiciary and Public Prosecution in Cracow, Lech Kaczynski National School of Public Administration in Warsaw, and the Tax and Customs Academy in Warsaw. In the field of security protection and public order, cooperation in the scope described here is also conducted with the Armed forces of the Republic of Poland through didactic and scientific-and-didactic entities such as the Military Gendarmerie and Training Centre in Minsk Mazowiecki, Air Force Institute of Technology in Warsaw, War Studies University in Warsaw, Polish Air Force University in Deblin, Heroes of Westerplatte Naval Academy in Gdynia, and the Military University of Land Forces in Wrocław. This range of activities is not limited only to security and public order institutions, as evidenced by the number of agreements signed with civil universities such as the University of Warsaw, University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn, University of Białystok, University of Wrocław, Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw, and the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin.

Conclusions

A special value of modern society — security and public order — which provides not only the possibility of undisturbed existence, but also social development, requires special protection. The modern state designs a number of legal and institutional mechanisms to guarantee the perpetuation and development of society without disruption. Among these mechanisms, significant emphasis is placed on cooperation between institutions appointed for security and public order protection. This has a significant dimension in modern times, when threats, simple in their essence, are less and less alarming to us, or we have learnt to counteract them effectively. Quite different challenges are presented by threats with a very complex structure, resulting from the high level of civilisational development, providing, on the one hand, a wide horizon of possibilities for easier and more efficient functioning in everyday life and development, but on the other hand, ever increasing number of threats which are not only more and more complex, but also often new, unexplored, and still not fully understood, and therefore unpredictable.

Every day, there is talk of cooperation of institutions in field of security and public order protection, most often in the context of current events, especially those that are in the interest of public opinion, eagerly followed by the mass media. This form of security and public order protection is rarely ever mentioned in reference to the training processes of institutions responsible for protecting this category of security.

This statement is an effect of not only ongoing observations of activities in field of security and public order, but it is also the result of materials examination, which the author analysed when preparing this article. There are relatively few mentions of the cooperation of the Police Academy in Szczytno with institutions protecting the sphere of security and public order, and yet it directly affects an improvement of this part of the state security system by shaping the knowledge of the staff

functioning in its structures. Much more often, and willingly, international cooperation is emphasised, although it translates rather into the prestige of the Polish Police, than into strengthening the national protection potential.

An analysis of the activities of the police school, which was created in Szczytno and has functioned over the years, allows it to be concluded that it is the only Police Academy which took on the challenge of establishing real, ever wider cooperation on the scientific and didactic level, and has effectively developed this over the years, thus contributing to the improvement of the state security system.

It was not the author's intention, not least because of the limited editorial requirements, to present in detail the activities in the analysed area of the Police Academy in Szczytno, but to highlight what seems to be an important, but not fully noticed role in improving the security and public order system of the Republic of Poland.

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Streszczenie. Wyższa Szkoła Policji w Szczytnie ma długą i bardzo zmienną historię. Na przestrzeni lat w miejsce dotychczas istniejących w Szczytnie szkół milicyjnych o charakterze wojskowym tworzono nowe szkoły, które miały zabezpieczać głównie potrzeby dydaktyczne ówczesnej Milicji Obywatelskiej. Zmiany ustrojowe z początku lat dziewięćdziesiątych dwudziestego wieku niosły falę reform w różnych obszarach życia społeczno-politycznego w Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej. Poważne reformy dotyczyły także organów bezpieczeństwa i porządku publicznego w tym nowo powołanej Policji. Szereg bardzo poważnych zmian zostało wprowadzonych na płaszczyźnie policyjnego szkolnictwa, w szczególności zaś w nowo powołanej Wyższej Szkole Policji w Szczytnie. Nie były to jedynie zmiany o charakterze formalnym, lecz faktycznie diametralnie zmieniające profil i sposób funkcjonowania uczelni. Właśnie na fali tych zmian uczelnia odważnie rozpoczęła i w dalszych latach intensywnie rozwijała współpracę z polskimi formacjami bezpieczeństwa i porządku publicznego, w takim zakresie, w jakim do tej pory nie była tu prowadzona. W artykule autor pragnie wykazać w syntetyczny sposób udział uczelni w procesie doskonalenia kadr polskiego systemu bezpieczeństwa i porządku publicznego przez intensywnie prowadzoną współpracę na tej płaszczyźnie w wymiarze nie tylko dydaktycznym, lecz także naukowo-badawczym.

Zusammenfassung. Die Polizeihochschule in Szczytno hat eine lange und sehr wechslungsreiche Geschichte. Im Laufe der Jahre wurden anstelle der bisher in Szczytno existierenden Militärmilizschulen neue Schuleinrichtungen geschaffen, die hauptsächlich den didaktischen Bedürfnissen der damaligen Bürgermiliz gerecht wurden. Die politischen Veränderungen seit Beginn der neunziger Jahre des 20. Jahrhunderts führten zu einer Reformwelle in verschiedenen Bereichen des sozialen und politischen Lebens in der Republik Polen. Schwerwiegende Reformen betrafen auch die Behörden für öffentliche Sicherheit und Strafverfolgung, einschließlich der neu ernannten Polizei. Auf der Ebene der Polizeiausbildung wurden einige sehr gravierende Änderungen vorgenommen, insbesondere an der neu eingerichteten Polizeiakademie in Szczytno. Dies waren nicht nur formale Änderungen, sondern auch eine diametrale Änderung des Profils und der Funktionsweise der Einrichtung. Mit Zusammenhang mit diesen Veränderungen entwickelte die Polizeihochschule in den folgenden Jahren eine intensive Zusammenarbeit mit polnischen Sicherheits- und Ordnungsbehörden, solange dies hier noch nicht geschehen ist. In dem Artikel möchte der Autor auf synthetische Weise die Beteiligung dieser Einrichtung am Prozess der Weiter- und Fortbildung des Personals des polnischen Sicherheits- und Ordnungssystems durch eine intensiv durchgeführte Zusammenarbeit nicht nur auf der didaktischen Ebene, sondern auch in Wissenschaft und Forschung darstellen.

Резюме. Высшая школа полиции в г. Щитно имеет длинную и разностороннюю историю. На протяжении лет, на месте до сих пор существующих в г. Щитно милицейских школ военного характера, создавались новые школы, которые должны обеспечивать в основном образовательные требования существовавшей тогда Гражданской милиции. Изменения общественного строя начала девяностых годов XX века принесли волну реформ в разных сферах общественной и политической жизни Республики Польша. Серьезные реформы касались также органов безопасности и общественного порядка, в том числе, вновь созданной Полиции. Ряд очень серьезных изменений был введен в сфере образовательной системы, в частности во вновь учрежденной Высшей школе полиции в г. Щитно. Это не были единственные изменения формального характера, но фактически они диаметрально изменили специфику деятельности и способ функционирования вуза. Именно совместно с этими изменениями вуз смело начал развивать сотрудничество с польскими формированиями, действующими в области безопасности и общественного порядка, и в дальнейшем интенсивно продолжать сотрудничество в таком объеме, в каком до сих пор оно не осуществлялось. В статье автор хочет кратко показать участие вуза в процессе совершенствования профессиональной подготовки кадров в польской системе безопасности и общественного порядка благодаря интенсивному сотрудничеству в этой сфере, учитывая не только дидактичный аспект, но и научно-исследовательский.

