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Book review: Michał Brzeziński, *Bezpieczeństwo jako wartość konstytucyjna* [*Security as a constitutional value*], Dom Wydawniczy Elipsa, Warszawa 2019, pp. 378, ISBN 978-83-8017-240-1

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The definition of “security” is commonly applied in the scholarly, political and social discourse. The multifaceted nature of security implies analyses taken up by researchers from the legal-administrative, political or psychological angle. The study entitled *Bezpieczeństwo jako wartość konstytucyjna* [*Security as a constitutional value*] addresses the category of security as a constitutional value. As pointed out by the monograph’s author, the literature lacks studies concerning this issue juxtaposed in this particular way. Even though researchers often undertake the subject of security and its multifaceted nature, there are few studies which address security and the constitutional values. It needs to be emphasized that the constitution is a key legal act, which outlines the direction for other legal acts concerning security which, as the author also highlights, confirms the rank of security and values contained therein (Brzeziński, 2019, p. 12).

The revived monograph comprises the introduction, conclusion, references and

three parts where each is composed of three chapters. A rich references section was noticed and so were normative acts, also the inclusion of constitutions of the Member States of the European Union, which the author treated as supplementary when referring to sources pointing to similarities and differences in constitutionalization of the value of security (Brzeziński, 2019, p. 13). The authors referred to in footnotes are an additional, rich source of information for the reader.

In the reviewed monograph the author applied the method of analysis and literature review, which is necessary due to the new research field pointed to in the monograph’s introduction. The comparative and hermeneutic method (Brzeziński, 2019, p.13) was used as supplementary. The author used it for, among others, comparing constitutions. The aim set by the author is to demonstrate the value of security on the ground of the basic law (Brzeziński, 2019, p. 12). Partial objectives were developed for the main purpose formulated in this way: linking security with

the subject matter of value, establishing ways which make it possible to identify and interpret security as a constitutional value and to characterize, on their basis, the constitutionalization of the value of security (Brzeziński, 2019, p. 12).

The first part entitled *Konotacje bezpieczeństwa* [*Security connotations*] comprises three chapters. In the first chapter the author attempts to explain the definition of security, starting with the dictionary meaning, through an etymological one, and finally pointing to differences between *security* and *non-danger*. The author's scrupulosity and great insight are noteworthy, where he conducted an analysis of the word security on the basis of numerous lexical sources such as encyclopaedias, lexicons, Polish language dictionaries or thesauruses. Additionally, the author expanded his analysis of the word security on the basis of older dictionaries and Old Polish and reached for historical meanings which are referred to as archaic or old-fashioned (Brzeziński, 2019, p. 30). It needs to be noted that the author also carried out a dictionary analysis of the meaning of security in English, French, German, Russian and Czech by which he confirms that he explicated the said word comprehensively. In the next chapter the monograph's author referred to security as a need, thus transferring reflections concerning the category of security onto a psychological plane. As pointed by the author, needs are not the main object of

interest yet their relationship with security is important (Brzeziński, 2019, p. 51). The author addressed the need of security quite broadly, referring to A. H. Maslow's and Murray's classic concepts of needs. The author expressly demonstrated the differences in positions concerning the classification of needs of the se researchers, additionally referring to authors (Tomasz Kocowski, Raymond Bernard Cattella, Piotr Kowalski (Brzeziński, 2019, p. 57)) who identify the security ones when classifying needs. The last, third chapter of the first part concerns axiological determinants of security. The author first analyzes the relationships occurring between needs and values. His reflections on the ambiguity of approaches to values are based on the axiological objectivist orientation and axiological subjectivist orientation. In the further part, the monograph's author focuses on the duty-like effect of values and points out that the duty-like nature seems most important from the point of view of values in general (Brzeziński, 2019, p. 87). The last part of the chapter is devoted to typological indications, classifying values, crucial for security, into basic (final) and secondary (instrumental), at the same time mentioning that the high importance of security is mostly seen in the above-mentioned division (Brzeziński, 2019, p. 333).

The monograph's second part, entitled *Konceptualizacje bezpieczeństwa* [*Conceptualizations of security*] comprises three

chapters, where the first one is devoted to addressing values in the constitution. The author analyzed the relationship of values with the constitution, emphasizing the axiological “entanglement” (Brzeziński, 2019, p. 116) of the key legal act, i.e. the constitution. Additionally, the author pointed out to the problem of the ability to read values which is a starting point for axiological assessment of the constitution (Brzeziński, 2019, p. 119) and discussed exhaustively the legal comprehension of values. In the next chapter the reader learns how legal values are manifested in constitutions and constitutional acts of the European Union states. Moreover, the author referred to legal values manifested in preambles, noting that the literal presence of values occurs in few preambles of constitutions of the European Union states (Brzeziński, 2019, p. 130). Concluding the second chapter the author discussed the rules of axiological interpretation, which lead to distinguishing three types of legal norms in the constitution, i.e. fundamental norms, regular norms and programme norms (Brzeziński, 2019, p. 135), pointing to their relationship with values and differences occurring between them. The last, third, chapter of the second part concerns doctrinal determinants. First, in response to the question of what security is, the author refers to the theory of securitization, noting that it is one of the more important theories in studying security, which is also helpful in the axiological analysis of secu-

rity (Brzeziński, 2019, p. 164). In further parts the author points to the personal dimension of security and discusses the reference subject – object relationship in the light of securitization, thus answering the next question about who security concerns. In the context of the material dimension of security and the question of that it concerns the author characterized five sectors of security: military, political, economic, social and environmental. Closing the chapter, in response to the last question of how security should be ensured and how to achieve security, the author talks of the institutional-functional architecture of the security of the state (Brzeziński, 2019, p. 197). It is worth noting the detailed discussion of the state’s functions, threats and objectives.

The last, third part of the monograph, entitled *Konstytucjonalizacja bezpieczeństwa [Constitutionalization of security]* is devoted to the analysis of regulating security in fundamental, programme and regular norms. The analysis carried out by the author is very detailed and begins with fundamental norms. Additionally, the author points to the relationship of security with fundamental norms regarding the common, public good, the public interest and related obligations, in particular the obligation to protect the homeland, which, as highlighted by the author, is directly related to security (Brzeziński, 2019, p. 243). In the further part of the monograph address-

ing programme norms, the author points particularly to their two varieties and the related differences in the way the addressee is specified (Brzeziński, 2019, p. 257). In reference to the first variety of programme norms, which points to objectives that are tasks of the entire country, the author analyzed the security of citizens, the ecological security, consumer, user and tenant security, closing with an analysis of programme norms directly relating to security, i.e. the two so-called principles of extraordinary measures – temporariness and purposefulness. The author analyzed norms relating to social security, securing livelihood and safe and hygienic work conditions as the next group of programme norms, pointing at the same time to their ambiguous legal status. As for the second variety of programme norms, which pinpoint objectives that are tasks of a particular institution, the author investigated programme norms involving security as regards the President, the Council of Ministers and the Armed Forces. In the

last chapter of the third part the author focused on the analysis of security in regular norms referring to the regulation of the Armed Forces, extraordinary and war measures.

To sum up, Michał Brzeziński's monograph *Bezpieczeństwo jako wartość konstytucyjna* [*Security as a constitutional value*] is a significant supplement to security-related literature functioning on the market. The issues of the category of security as a constitutional value and a high scientific level constitute qualities of the reviewed book. The logical sequence of reflections in individual parts of the monograph, the author's scrupulosity and insight in the conducted analyses are all noteworthy. Each part of the study demonstrates the author's very good knowledge of the subject matter taken up by him. In my opinion the book presents great scientific and didactic value and is a valuable source of knowledge for students of law and security. Thus, my assessment is high, I truly recommend it.